

Walsall & Willenhall CHRONICLE

Thursday, February 1, 2018

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Dismay over 'latest blow to local policing' to save £21k

TOWN'S POLICE STATION TO SHUT

Report by Carl Jackson

A POLICE station will close down in the 'latest blow to local policing' in Walsall, force chiefs have confirmed.

Darlaston Police Station's closure will save £20,935 a year in running costs, according to West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson's office.

The sale of the building on Crescent Road would generate around £180,000, a PCC spokesman added.

But Darlaston councillor Doug James described the closure of the station as 'betraying people's trust in local policing'.

It comes amid a spate of four fatal stabbings in seven months across Walsall.

James Brindley died after being stabbed in Aldridge in June, while Reagan Asbury was knifed in the neck in October after a boxing event at Walsall Town Hall.

On January 14, 19-year-old Rezwana Ali was killed at a house party in Chockley, while Mylene Billingham, aged eight, was stabbed in Brownhills on Saturday, January 20.

Improvement

Police have insisted they are working to reduce violent crime in Walsall but insisted the crimes are not linked.

Councillor James said: "Let's hope this latest blow to local policing in Darlaston can be justified and evidenced as a service improvement.

"Local people will no doubt voice the opinion that this is more like the betrayal of their trust in local policing.

"Now there is not even a police base in our town everyone finally knows Darlaston is highly unlikely to have a police station ever again. A long goodbye has finally come to an end."

A PCC spokesman said: "Darlaston police base is due to close as part of the ongoing West Midlands Police estates review.

"Neighbourhood teams at Darlaston will be based a short distance away at Willenhall police base. The move will not affect how and where officers patrol the area."

Walsall Ch Supt Andy Parsons said: "Decisions about the police estate are not taken lightly but policing is about people, not buildings." A date for the closure has yet to be confirmed.

● Priority – Page 14

£35K JUST THE TICKET TO KEEP WHEELS ROLLING



Aston Transport Museum Trust chairman, Martin Fisher, seen with one of the buses at the Aldridge site in its 40th year

A £35,000 GRANT has been secured to drive up visitor numbers at a 'struggling' museum during the run up to its 40th year.

The money was awarded to the Aston Manor Road Transport Museum, in Aldridge, from the Heritage Lottery Fund. It will be used to hire a professional to look at encouraging more visitors to enjoy what the attraction has to offer as part of a 10-month project.

The museum costs £50,000 to run each year and most of its funding comes through ticket sales. The team will look at how to raise more money for projects involving technology and engineering, with the aim of attracting younger visitors and schools to enjoy the vintage vehicles.

They are also looking at recruiting more

volunteers to help improve the way the museum is run. Anyone interested in taking up such a role has been asked to get in contact.

A collection of 48 commercial vehicles, including lorries, trucks, buses, coaches and a 1900s tram, can be found on display.

They all demonstrate how roads and transport in the local area has changed over the years. Martin Fisher, chairman of the trust, said: "We are struggling but a lot of museums do mostly because of the cost of rent, so this money will help get professional help to look at our business prospects."

"I am really pleased we have secured this grant in 2018, which also happens to be our 40th year."

The museum once stood at Witton Tram

Shed, in Birmingham, where it originally opened in 1980. It remained at the same site until 2011 when it was moved due to a row with the city council over rent.

The volunteer-run museum was at Birmingham Business Park in Northgate, Aldridge, before relocated across the borough to Shenstone Drive where it remains today.

A series of events are being held at in the coming months to boost visitor numbers. These include a Buses By Night event on February 17, between 2pm and 8pm, where free rides on vintage buses will be on offer.

Anyone interested in volunteering or sponsoring a vehicle has been asked to contact the museum on 01922 454761 or visit its website, amrtm.org

SCHOOL

Paddington film sex video shock

PARENTS have been left feeling 'disgusted' after a video showing a sex act popped up during a school screening of Paddington Bear.

Nine and 10-year-old pupils at Croft Academy in Walsall were watching the film when inappropriate footage was shown, according to a parent who wants to remain anonymous. The school said in a letter to parents and carers that there was a 'failure in our filters' which led to the children seeing the video.

She said: "I was absolutely disgusted."

A letter home to the parents of the Year five pupils reads: 'We had a failure in our filters. An inappropriate image came up. The school has strict measures in place to prevent such images from appearing.'

But some parents were unhappy with the way they were told about the incident and think there should have been a text message sent out to arrange a meeting.

"A spokesman from the school said: 'An issue with web content filtering software occurred on Friday afternoon. The issue has been reported to the trust and the service provider, in accordance with academy procedures.'

An investigation is underway and to comment any further would be inappropriate at this point."

ANIMALS

Rescue centre may reopen in weeks

ROSEDENE Rescue Centre could reopen in a matter of weeks as it emerges police are now looking into the removal of 21 dogs from the site.

The dog shelter in Rushall is temporarily closed. The owner Desmond Goodall, who has been criticised over the conditions for dogs by a campaign group, has accused them of stealing the dogs.

West Midlands Police confirmed they were looking into the matter as well as an allegation of fraud. The group, called Rosedene 12, has rebuffed the claims.

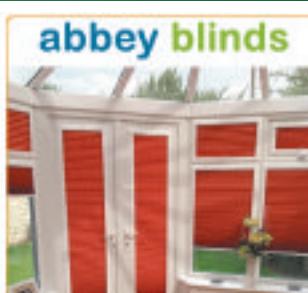
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INSIDE

DAREDEVIL RYAN'S HIGHS AND LOWS



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Secondary schools dip below standard

ELEVEN secondary schools across the Black Country and Staffordshire are under-performing, official figures show. The schools – three in Sandwell, three in Walsall, two in Wolverhampton, one in Dudley, one in Staffordshire and one in Wyre Forest – are deemed to have fallen below the Government's performance threshold in 2017.

This means pupils are failing to make enough progress across eight subjects, with particular weight given to English and maths, according to the Department for Education.

The list of schools failing to meet the floor standards in the region includes Norton Canes High School, The Holly Hall Academy in Dudley, Holy Trinity School in Kidderminster, the ACE Academy in Tipton, Walsall Studio School and Brownhills Schools.

Wodensborough Ormiston Academy in Wednesbury, Health Futures UTC in West Bromwich, Willenhall E-ACT Academy, Wednesfield High Specialist Engineering Academy and West Midlands Construction UTC in Wolverhampton have all also been highlighted as failing to hit the re-

quired standard. The figures show that nationally about one in 12 children – a total of 260,783 – are now being taught at under-performing secondaries.

This is a rise from 206,991 in 2016.

The increase comes amid major changes to England's exams system, including the introduction of a new grading system, which has meant the data includes English and maths GCSE results awarded new 9 to 1 scores while other subjects received traditional A* to G grades.

School leaders said the new grading

system affecting English and maths has complicated the way school performance is calculated, as it has to be worked out using a combination of old and new grading systems.

Geoff Barton, general secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL), said: "As the DfE itself says, these changes are the main reason why there has been an increase in the number of schools which are deemed to be below the 'floor standard' for Progress 8. It is extremely unfair that more schools find themselves in this situation."

Jail for man with images of 'vile' abuse on computer

A PAEDOPHILE who downloaded hundreds of the worst kind of indecent images – some featuring the 'vile' abuse of 12 month old babies – has been jailed for nine months.

Richard Broomhall spent almost three years building up the appalling collection of obscene material which involved both still and moving pictures, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

It included 228 images classified by experts as being category A – the most serious offending – and a further 240 categorised as either group B or C, said Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting.

All had been deleted after viewing but were recovered with specialist equipment when his lap top computer was seized during a police raid on the address in Jenner Close, Walsall where he was living on June 30 last year.

The 48-year-old defendant, now living at Lodgefield Park, Baswich Lane, Stafford, gave a 'no comment' interview both on his arrest and on September 28 when seen again by officers after the images had been studied.

Miss Neile Steers, defending, argued that it would be better for Broomhall to have his interest in this kind of pornography addressed and treated by experts. She said this would be more likely to rehabilitate him than a period of immediate custody.

Judge Barry Berlin retorted: "What worries me is that babies aged 12 months are being vilely abused by adults. It is difficult to imagine worse offending of this sort."

Broomhall admitted three charges of making indecent images of children between September 2014 and June 2017.

Graves ruling campaign due

MOURNERS are set to contest a High Court ruling restricting the maintenance of graves at Streetley Crematorium.

Members of the Muslim community have been embroiled in a long-running row with Walsall Council because they believe they should be able to put edging stones and decorations around their relatives' graves.

But the authority ordered them to remove them stating it was a lawn cemetery and in breach of rules. The decision was upheld in the High Court but now the mourners have appealed the ruling which will be heard on February 15.

Councillor Ian Shires, responsible for bereavement and registration services, said: "We appreciate that it is always a sensitive time when someone dies, but as a council we need to ensure that the borough's cemeteries are neat and tidy so our burial grounds remain peaceful and respectful for the benefit of all visitors."

Rosedene campaigners defend rehoming dogs

Joy as gates shut on traffic chaos



Campaigner Mohammed Arif, celebrates with residents at Walsall's Wolverhampton University campus

AN new entrance has been created into a university campus ending a long-running traffic headache for residents who live on the former access road.

For years students have driven to the University of Wolverhampton campus in Walsall coming off the ring road – Broadway – into Magdalene Road.

It had been a nightmare for dozens of residents on the estate who

had to put up with high levels of traffic, particularly at peak times.

But that was until last week when a new dedicated access onto Broadway opened up.

Former Walsall Council member Mohammed Arif welcomed the development saying he had campaigned for it on residents' behalf for more than a decade. He said it had been prompted several years ago by a decision by the council's

planning committee who ruled that the university could not continue to use an overspill car park at the site unless they established a new access.

He said: "It is so pleasing to see a proper new access road into the Campus and I take a great delight in seeing the much hated Magdalene Road gate entrance being closed to traffic and pedestrians as it had caused misery."

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GAS SAFE REGISTER

Flu blamed by bosses on queues at hospitals

STAFFORDSHIRE hospital bosses have blamed an outbreak of flu for causing long queues of patients left on trolleys in corridors.

The University Hospitals of NHS Trust (UHNM), which runs County Hospital, Stafford and Royal Stoke, said it had treated 417 patients due to flu since November 1. Around 20 patients a day are admitted with flu.

One patient, who attended Royal Stoke on a Friday night, photographed one of the hospital corridors claiming there were around 20 people on trolleys. The man, who did not want to be named, said there were similar scenes on two other hallways at the time. He said: "I felt that I really had my eyes opened to the problems currently being reported in so many hospitals."

A trust spokesman said: "The health system in the North Midlands has been under severe and sustained pressure since October, and the last month has been exceptionally busy."

"There has been a substantial increase in the number of admissions from A&E into wards at UHNM. This includes 417 patients who have tested positive and been admitted for flu since the start of November 2017."

"The increase in patients and the numbers waiting in the hospital longer than a week to be discharged is having a clear impact on our ability to treat new arrivals to A&E quickly."

New jobs as car dealership opens

TWO jobs have been created at a new car showroom that has opened in Walsall.

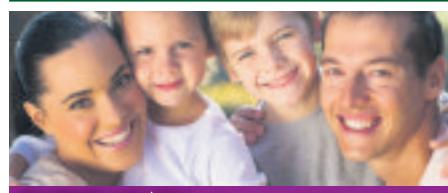
The webuyanyecar.com opened on January 25. One in four located in the West Midlands, it has revoiced from Crown Wharf Retail Park to The Old Foundry. It will be open seven days a week and will be one of 200 branches that are open around the country.

Richard Evans, head of technical services at webuyanyecar.com, said: "With the new branch we hope to reduce customer travelling time by opening in a more central location."

"We're looking forward to welcoming many new customers in branch and continuing to be the area's top consumer choice for selling cars in a convenient and hassle free way."

Micro-pub plan

DEVELOPERS want to bring a micro-pub to Brownhills High Street. An application has been submitted to Walsall Council to convert the former Starlight Photographic Services next to Co-operative Funeral Care.



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Murder accused denies targeting victim



Victim - James Brindley

A TEENAGER accused of murdering fitness instructor James Brindley has denied he targeted his victim with the initial intention of robbing him.

The 17-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, told a jury that Mr Brindley was the aggressor, grabbing his jacket and running at him during a confrontation in Aldridge. Giving evidence at Birmingham Crown Court on Friday, he claimed he pulled out a knife only to scare him off after an initial tussle and that he had 'accidentally' stabbed him when Mr Brindley advanced on

him. The youth and co-accused Aaron Kahrod, 21, both deny murdering Mr Brindley on June 24 last year.

The younger defendant also denied lying about the events of that night after he was covertly recorded in custody saying: "If we both say the truth, we're both going to get done." Quizzed about what he meant by the remark by prosecutor Jonas Hankin, QC, he said: "At the time, I thought self-defence was murder."

Mr Hankin inquired why he had not mentioned Mr Brindley 'running at' him in his defence statement.

"I'm not sure," he replied. The jury heard a jacket worn by the teenager that night and found dumped in a bin yards from the scene had a surgical mask in the pocket. Asked what it was for, the youth said he carried it for 'fashion' reasons.

The teen confirmed Mr Brindley had not brandished a weapon and had not hit or punched him. But he claimed he was frightened by his victim's 'athletic' physical presence. The jury were due to hear closing arguments on Monday, with a verdict expected subsequently.

NEWS IN BRIEF

63 council homes plans revealed

PLANS have been revealed to build more than 60 council homes.

Housing bosses at Sandwell Council are trying to secure Government funds for the project in Tipton.

A total of 63 homes, from two to four-bedrooms, have been earmarked for three council-owned sites in Strathmore Road and Henn Street. The council is also aiming to secure funding from Homes England to help develop the scheme.

Councillor Kerrie Carmichael, for housing, said: "This would bring about a much-needed boost to our housing stock with another 63 high-quality affordable homes."

Work under way on new scanners

WORK is under way to house two new MRI scanners at Walsall Manor Hospital as part of another important investment in healthcare services.

The current MRI scanner is more than 16 years old. In partnership with the InHealth Group, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust has entered into a 15-year contract to replace the current old scanner and install a second.

This will enable the Trust to make better use of its financial resources, say bosses. A temporary MRI unit has been put in place next to the glass corridor and Ward 29.

Musicians link-up for concert in city

FIVE leading contemporary folk singer-songwriters and musicians get together for the Shake The Chains concert in Birmingham this weekend.

Sunday night's Town Hall line-up includes BBC 2 Folk Award winners Nancy Kerr, Hannah Martin and Greg Russell with guest appearance from Steve Knightley and Grace Petrie.

The concert of eclectic folk and protest follows the Shake The Chains album, released in response to a year of political upheaval. Tickets are £20.50. See thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 3333.

The Blockheads to play gig at Robin 2

PUNK, funk, jazz and rock icons The Blockheads will play a gig in Bilston on February 23.

The London-formed band, set up back in 1977, was originally fronted by the late, great Ian Dury.

Songs they are best known for include Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick; Reasons To Be Cheerful Part 3; Sex and Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll; and What A Waste. For details, contact the Robin 2 on [www.therobin.co.uk](http://therobin.co.uk)

Homes hope as scrap firm base to be cleared

A SCRAP firm which went out of business after 111 years is now destined for the bulldozer - with a housing development potentially lined up in its place.

WH Marren in Willenhall collapsed last year with dozens of jobs lost.

Now an application to demolish the site at Temple Bar has been lodged with Walsall Council.

Council leader Sean Coughlan, who represents the area, said the company was another symbol of Willenhall's 'industrial decline'.

He added he was waiting for formal plans to come forward but stated the fact the buildings were to be demolished indicated the company which now owns the site showed they wanted to deliver housing.

Councillor Coughlan said: "I knew some of the staff there and the owners. For many years neighbours had been living next to and backing on to what was in the last six or seven years and intensive business on that site. It has always brought its problems. Now a company has come in and we could potentially see a housing development in a planning application.

Officers

"It would suit the area better and certainly the council as we need more housing in the area. All we have at the moment is an application to knock the buildings down which I would take to mean they do not want to continue the business that's there."

"We will just have to wait and see, I have asked officers to find out what the company's long-term plans are."

"It is an area in Willenhall which has been in industrial decline for a long time."

Administrators were brought in to WH Marren last July when the company collapsed.

Out of 52 staff 45 lost their jobs immediately with the remaining workers staying on a short while after to wind the business down. It was established in 1906 and specialised in collecting and processing metals to be used in the manufacture of goods, supplying raw materials for companies across the UK, Europe and Asia.



The sign for WH Marren at the former scrap metal merchants site in Temple Bar, Willenhall

Award named after campaigner Jill

A UNIVERSITY students' award has been named after sex attack victim campaigner Jill Saward.

Coventry University's Jill Saward Award goes to the forensic investigation student who makes the biggest impact outside the campus.

Ms Saward, who lived in Hedsford, gave an annual lecture at the university.

She was the first sex victim to

waive her right to anonymity, before fighting tirelessly to help fellow victims of sex attacks.

Sadly, she died last year, aged 51.

Since then, more than £20,000 has been raised in her name, and will be used by the family to set up a new charity.

Widower Gavin Drake, who has now moved to London, hopes to also reissue her book Rape: My Story with added chapters. It was

first published in 1990. Mr Drake said: "The university contacted me to say they wanted to name an award for the forensic investigation course in her name. I then had the privilege to provide the award at the graduation in October."

"It is a huge honour," Mr Drake added.

Ms Saward was raped by a gang of intruders at a vicarage in Ealing in 1986.

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Flu vaccine for Australian strain

HEALTH experts have insisted it is not too late to get vaccinated against Aussie flu, amid a rise in UK cases.

Dr Helen Hibbs, from the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group, said the jab had proved effective against the strain of flu – and said people should take measures to protect themselves. Aussie flu has made headlines in recent weeks following reports of cases across the country.

Dr Hibbs said: "This particularly nasty strain of flu shows just how severe flu can be. The good news is that the flu vaccine is effective against the Australian flu and it is still not too late for people to get protected."

University signs up for project

A MIDLANDS university has signed up to a Government initiative aimed at getting young people from poorer backgrounds into higher education.

Newman University in Birmingham is part of the National Collaborative Outreach Project (NCOP), which is tasked with increasing numbers at university from disadvantaged families.

The university has a dedicated NCOP team who work with schools and colleges in the area.

Former Newman student Lewis Hickman, from Bartley Green, returned to the university to work on the project.

Mecca marking Macarena's 25th

BINGO lovers are being called on to pull their best 90s dance moves.

Bilston's Mecca is looking for people to flaunt their moves to throwback hit Macarena for the chance to grab a £1,000 holiday. It comes as the bingo hall, based at Spring Vale Retail Park, celebrates 25 years of Los Del Rio's one-hit wonder.

Dance videos need to be uploaded to the Bilston branch's Facebook on Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 01902 405065.

Home unveils its £2m extension

A CARE home has unveiled its new £2 million extension. Beech Hill Grange, in Sutton Coldfield, provides nursing and dementia care.

The service has now doubled its footprint with the expansion, increasing its capacity to 75 rooms.

The extension also includes a new piano lounge and sitting room. There is also a private dining room and a hair salon.

After latest cases, councillor to lobby for tougher action



Campaign – MP Eddie Hughes



Victim – John Hickinbottom



Banned driver Craig Edwards



Cyclist death – Kade Scrivens



Rebecca McManus was killed

Campaign launched for longer sentences



The anti-speeding campaign logo

TWO killer drivers who callously left their victims for dead have each been jailed for under eight years, prompting a campaign calling for action.

Banned driver Craig Edwards was locked up for seven years for killing grandfather John Hickinbottom. He lost control of his vehicle and mounted the pavement, knocking down the 74-year-old.

Speeding motorist Kade Scrivens was sentenced to seven and a half years for hitting cyclist Nicholas Harrison. Scrivens was speeding and driving on the wrong side of the road.

Both sentences have been criticised by road safety campaigner Gez McManus and Walsall North MP Eddie Hughes, who is to raise the matter in Parliament. In the meantime the Chronicle's sister newspaper – the Express & Star – has set up a petition.

Mr McManus, whose 21-year-old daughter Rebecca was killed by a speeding driver in Bearwood four years ago, said: "Enough is enough.

"Something needs to change to stop people getting behind the wheel and driving so dangerously, causing misery to the families of the innocent people killed. If the sentences are not long enough, people will fail to take notice. We have to go back to the drawing board." The two cases were heard before Wolverhampton Crown Court this week.

Meanwhile, launching the campaign, Express & Star editor, Keith Harrison said: "The crime of dangerous driving should be urgently addressed by our lawmakers.

"While the death toll grows, time and time again we see people who are found guilty of this offence handed sentences that are pathetic.

"Government legislation designed to tackle dangerous driving is slowly moving forward, although it is likely to be a while before anything meaningful enters the statute books.

"We need action now. Today the Express & Star and Chronicle are calling on people to sign our petition.

Where is the justice for the victims and their families?"

● To sign the petition visit expressandstar.com

Justice call for families of killer drivers' victims

A COMMUNITY leader in Walsall says he is setting up a panel to lobby the courts system calling for tougher sentences for killer speeding drivers.

It is part of the campaign launched following the jailing of two men causing death by dangerous driving.

Craig Edwards, aged 29, of Cumberland Road, Walsall, received a seven-year sentence for killing pedestrian John Hickinbottom in Walsall.

Kade Scrivens, 24, of Booth Street in Handsworth, received a seven-and-a-half-year prison sentence for killing cyclist John Harrison in Walsall. Councillor Doug James's ward of Darlaston.

Councillor James said he would now invite other community leaders and MPs to join the panel, focusing on sentences and putting pressure on the court system to deliver "suitable" punishment.

He added: "The leniency of the courts results in people being released far too early – we all want to see justice being done."

Councillor James' ward is where Scrivens drove a BMW at speed before losing control and hitting cyclist Mr Harrison, aged 59.

Wolverhampton Court heard how Scrivens then fled the scene on Midland Road.

He only handed himself into police 55 hours later after a public appeal.

Scrivens took so long, according to Judge Simon Ward, because he had been high on drugs or drunk.

Councillor James said: "He will be out in less than four years, yet a community, a family has lost a loved one. "Something needs to be done about this."

Meanwhile Mr Hickinbottom's family who were in court to watch the



Gez McManus lost his daughter when she was hit by a speeding driver

proceedings, must attempt to move on without the 74-year-old, of Lilac Grove, Bentley.

Granddaughter Jade told the court: "It felt like my world was falling apart without him."

And, in the Scrivens case, in a victim impact statement read out in court, Mr Harrison's brother, Christopher, 70, said his death "has affected me greatly".

The two cases have triggered a campaign by the Chronicle's sister paper, the Express & Star for tougher sentences on killer drivers, supported by Gez McManus, aged 54, of Balsall Common, who wants killer drivers to be banned from the roads for life.

He also says judges should be stricter with their sentences and people need to be educated on the dangers

of driving dangerously. The Ministry of Justice is proposing for the maximum sentence for causing death by dangerous driving to go up from 14 years to life.

Mr McManus's 21-year-old daughter Rebecca was killed when Sukhinder Mannan, who was driving at 101mph, hit her.

The fatal crash in Hagley Road West in Bearwood resulted in 34-year-old Mannan, from Halesowen, being jailed for eight years after admitting causing death by dangerous driving.

The sentence four years ago has been followed by several other death by dangerous driving convictions – none of which have resulted in the maximum 14-year sentence.

Mr McManus said: "We have to go

back to the drawing board. Mr Mannan will get his freedom shortly and be in his early 30s, he will still have a long life ahead of him. He should not be allowed to go behind the wheel again.

"The problem we have is by the time the case gets to the court it is too late, someone has died. People who view it as socially acceptable need to realise it is socially unacceptable."

Mr McManus is starting a charity called Collision and Reducing Death on our Roads. He aims to reach out to young drivers, encouraging them to drive safely.

Eddie Hughes, Walsall North MP, says he will raise the issue in Parliament.

He said: "People need to realise that when they are driving their car and are texting, speeding, drinking, that the vehicle has the potential to be a lethal weapon. Tougher sentences need to be put out to show that."

Other sentences given out over the past two years for death by dangerous driving include uninsured driver Jake Nelson, who was given a suspended detention sentence after hitting 39-year-old Neil Perry as he crossed the road in West Bromwich last year.

Nelson, 19, of Hales Road in Wednesday, was driving 57mph in a 30mph zone.

Joseph Chance, 25, of Murcroft Road, Stourbridge, and Dylan Stringer, 24, Wychbury Road, Stourbridge, were jailed for eight and six years respectively after killing young mother Nadine Foster while racing at speeds of almost 80mph.

Former Dudley College student Miss Foster, 18, was a front seat passenger in a Ford Focus, driven by boyfriend Stringer, when it hit a wall in Hagley Road, Stourbridge. She died in hospital four days after last April's tragedy, leaving behind her then five-month-old son.

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Schools are sought for Jobcentre work project

JOBCENTRE Plus is looking for more schools in the Black Country to get involved with a project that gives pupils an insight into the world of work.

A six-week employability programme has recently been run with Blue Coat Church of England Academy in Walsall through the Civil Service Local Programme, Black Country Support for Schools team and Walsall Department for Work and Pensions.

Year 10 students completed tasks associated with the world of work including an enterprise challenge involving a cake and samosa sale that raised £230 for St Giles Hospice.

Sarah Murphy head of careers, said: "I have been really impressed with the professional and flexible approach from the Walsall Jobcentres in making this project happen."

The feedback from the students has been really positive and the school are delighted that the programme is re-enforcing key messages about attendance, punctuality and putting the effort into achieving the necessary grades." The support for schools initiative is aimed at 12 to 18-year-old pupils and also offers advice on traineeships and apprenticeships.

Schools interested in working with Black Country Jobcentre Plus can e-mail blackcountry.supportforschools@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or call Gerry Lyng, on 07966 566161.

13 arrests made in slavery raids

THIRTEEN people have been arrested on suspicion of modern slavery connections following a series of early morning raids by West Midlands Police.

West Midlands Police swooped on homes in Birmingham as part of an investigation into the exploitation of eastern European workers, while a minibus carrying suspected slavery victims was stopped in Aldridge.

The warrants were executed at addresses in Farnham Road, Headingley Road, Heath Road South and Westbourne Road in Handsworth, Birmingham.

Nine men and four women – all Polish nationals – have been arrested on suspicion of slavery offences and taken into custody for questioning.

M6 jump threat

THE M6 was shut after a man threatened to jump off a bridge. Traffic was stopped between Junctions 10 and 10A, just before 11am last Wednesday due to the incident at Bentley Lane bridge. The man later came down.

Fate of failing care home left in limbo



Orchard Care Home, Darlaston

THE future of an underperforming care home is shrouded in doubt.

The owners of Orchard have claimed attempts to hand over the business have been held up by regulators.

Vicky and Chris Brookes, both aged 58, had been hoping to retire from running the care home in Darlaston, which was placed in special measures by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in September due to 'inadequate' standards across the board.

The regulator also confirmed that key areas around safety and leader-

ship had still not improved after a follow-up inspection in November. The CQC states homes in special measures will be kept under review and shut down if they fail to improve.

The Brookes' said they had found another provider for the Station Road home but accused the CQC of failing to give them assurances they will be given time to turn around the failing facility, which employs around 30 staff and accommodates 20 residents.

The couple were due to retire at the end of January but do not want to leave the home in a position where

it is forced to close. Mr Brookes said: "We have found another provider and we have asked the CQC for assurances they will be given six months to come in and turn it around. We just want to hand over the reins."

In response the CQC said it could not provide any assurances because the prospective provider had not formally submitted an application to take Orchard care home over. A spokesman said: "There is no new provider because we haven't had an application to register a new provider to deliver the service."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Work kicks off on 'garden city'

WORK to transform Bilston Urban Village into a green oasis has started. Company idverde has begun landscaping works for the 'garden city', due for completion this summer.

Up to 450 homes are to be built on the former brownfield site which will be connected by 14 hectares of land for public open space and a nature conservation. Economy chief, Councillor John Reynolds, said: "This is a major milestone for Bilston Urban Village. People are already moving into the first of up to 450 new homes. The open space strategy will see idverde deliver a green environment for the community to enjoy."

Care centre future remains in doubt

HEALTH bosses say they are still to decide on the future of the Urgent Care Centre in Walsall – six months after revealing plans to close it.

The £1m facility in the Saddlers Centre, which sees around 120 people a day, opened in early 2016. Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group put forward plans to close the site by last November, pledging to plough savings into improving the other urgent care centre at Walsall Manor Hospital.

But it remains open and Professor Simon Brake, chief officer at the CCG, said: "No decision has yet been made."

Views are sought on green spaces

PEOPLE can share their views and contribute to future planning and management of green spaces in Walsall.

Approximately 10,000 households in the borough, selected at random, will receive a postal questionnaire, the results of which will help the council get a better understanding of how people use parks and green spaces, what people value most about them and what could be improved.

Consultation closes on February 18. For more, visit www.walsall.gov.uk/greenspacestrategy.

Circular walk with countryside views

THE Walsall Group of the Ramblers head to Tanworth in Arden for a seven-mile circular walk on Sunday.

'Tanworth and Umberslade' is an undulating walk with distant views of the Warwickshire countryside.

Non-members are always welcome and can obtain details from the walk leader on 01922 692929.

More information is available on the website www.walsallramblers.org.uk, as well as Facebook and Twitter.

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with Mark Andrews

Rich list? That could refer to me – and you

A STUDY by Oxfam, which claims that the richest one per cent of the world owns 82 per cent of the world's resources, has sparked a predictable outcry on social media.

"The greedy rich should pay more tax to help the poor and downtrodden" seems to be the upshot of it, and certainly when confronted with such stark figures it seems hard to disagree.

I do wonder, though, whether the professional malcontents busy working themselves into such a fury have actually paused to think about just who the richest one per cent of the population are.

No doubt images of Sir Philip Green, polishing his medallion while soaking up the sun on his private yacht, spring to mind. Or perhaps Sir Richard Branson on his private island, and a grouchy Lord Sugar barking orders at his underlings from his raised chair in the boardroom.

And of course, no list of wealthy pantomime villains would be complete without special mention of Rupert Murdoch, who seems to be to blame for most things these days.

And yes, all of these fall into the richest one per cent, but they are not alone. According to the Global Rich List, which defines such things, anybody earning more than £22,706 a year is in the richest one per cent. I wonder how many of the people angrily pointing the finger at the "greedy rich" realise that they too are members of that exclusive club?

More to the point, how many of these members of the richest one per cent, particularly those who work in the public sector, have been on protest marches demanding an end to "austerity", and an inflation-busting pay rise?

If the Oxfam report tells us anything, it is that most people in this country are pretty well-off, and maybe a little less moaning wouldn't go amiss when there are so many people in the world who really do have something to complain about.

By the way, the chief executive of Oxfam earned £127,753 last year.

□ □ □

INTERESTINGLY, the Oxfam report also coincides with a new report by the Rowtree Foundation which says more than half of children in London and Birmingham are living in poverty.

The study defines poverty as having an income, after housing costs, of less than £248 a week, which is a little confusing.

Given the stratospheric cost of housing at the moment, particularly in London, how many of these supposedly impoverished households are also in the richest one per cent of the world?

Clapping at end of Churchill film – and why not?



Gary Oldham as Winston Churchill in the film Darkest Hour



Lord Jim O'Neill now believes booming global trade will "dwarf" Brexit ill effects



Prince William 'laughed off' suggestions he paid £180 for his new shaven-headed look

Patriotic nation is entitled to applaud

A READER contacts me with yet another report of a cinema audience applauding at the end of Darkest Hour starring Gary Oldham as Winston Churchill. I'm not surprised. These are self-selecting audiences with a pro-Churchill bias, and, having heard of the reactions elsewhere, they are primed to clap.

BUT there's surely more to it than that. Britain is just about the only European country proud of its part in the 20th century. And despite half-a-century of post-imperial breast-beating and institutionalised shame, we are, in the main, a patriotic and sentimental nation. We saved the world. We are entitled to clap a little.

JUST as global warming may be cooled by a coming mini-ice age, so Brexit may be mollified by a general improvement in world trade. So says the former treasury minister and Remainer Lord O'Neill. He now believes that booming global trade will "dwarf" any ill effects caused by leaving the EU. In other words, after all the froth and fury, we may hardly notice any difference. The millennium bug revisited.

PRINCE William has 'laughed off' suggestions that he paid £180 for his new shaven-headed look. This is only a theory but I'd be surprised if he paid anything. His wife's hair stylist apparently went to Kensington Palace to give HRH the razor-cut treatment. The stylist is probably well-pleased with all the publicity and would not dream of sending a bill.

IN case William is remotely interested, in real life, for a Number 3 cut which is not quite so brutal as his, I pay £5 (admittedly with the Nearer My God To Thee discount).

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



SOCIAL media ought to come with a warning: "Signing up to this will ruin your entire life." Latest victim is Amena Khan, L'Oréal's hijab-wearing model who has resigned after somebody uncovered anti-Israel tweets she posted three years ago. How long will it be before nobody on social media will be able to do anything in the public eye because of their hasty opinions of yore?

A FORMER SAS soldier who took part in the 1980 Iranian Embassy siege is homeless and unable to get a council house. In contrast, one of the embassy terrorists, released from jail after 28 years, is said to be living rent-free in London. Surprised? Me neither. It is 100 years since the prime minister Lloyd George promised "homes fit for heroes." It was a lie then and it's a lie now.

THE Church of England is a broad church with half a millennium's worth of prayers and liturgy to cover every aspect of human life. This probably explains why its House of Bishops has decided there's no need to create a new form of service to welcome transgender worshippers; the baptismal service can be adapted. But I bet the bishops considered not only the theology but the maths. According to official statistics, no more than six out of every 1,000 Brits are transgender. No more than 20 in every 1,000 Brits are regular churchgoers. So the number of transgender people wanting a new form of service is vanishingly small, especially when you divide it among England's 10,449

church parishes. And yet who would put money on the bishops' decision being the end of it? The campaigning group OneBodyOneFaith has already accused the bishops of "kicking trans people into the long grass" and the lesson of the Church's recent history is that once it is accused of kicking anybody, the only option is a meek apology and surrender.

OUR changing language. According to police, a gang of violent burglars in the Black Country "scope areas for homes that could be potential targets." Scope? The trouble with this word is not that it means nothing but that it can mean several things. You can scope a property using binoculars but you can also scope it through online research. Joe Public, on being warned of "scoping," may start keeping an eye peeled for dodgy-looking blokes with field glasses when he should be removing images of his possessions from Facebook.

MIND you, if I were in charge, burglary would vanish overnight. This is because I'd have serial burglars taken into a field and shot. Why? Because they are the lowest of the low. They are worse than most murderers (who usually kill in a moment of passion) and worse than many paedophiles (who clearly have mental problems). What is more, there is hard evidence that serial burglars kill people. Home Office figures show that old people who have been burgled are much more likely to die sooner than others of similar age. At best, being burgled causes long-lasting trauma. At worst, it shortens your life. Yet police forces everywhere increasingly treat it as a minor crime and when I suggest executing serial burglars, people think I'm joking. Absolutely not.



Cashing in on the sick with fines for parking

PARKING fines and charges have been in the news lately. Recently, The Chronicle revealed that hospital trusts were making thousands from charging staff and visitors to park, with Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, for example, raking in £1.1m.

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust made £2.4m and Dudley Group NHS Trust profited to the tune of £471,000, although most of that revenue was taken by a private finance initiative firm.

Add the £2.3m made by the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust and you can see why the chief executive of the Patients' Association Rachel Power claims the charges equate to being penalised for being ill.

Spare a thought in particular for the heroic, overworked and under-paid employees within our crumbling NHS, who deserve a bigger wage packet, yet find most of their already hard-earned cash spent on the privilege of going to work and potentially saving someone else's life.

Away from hospitals, it was reported that, to Walsall Council alone, more than £1,000 a day was being paid every day in parking penalties.

One Liberal Democrat campaigner said drivers were being treated as cash cows. And, after an experience that happened to myself, I can only concur.

You see, I was given a penalty charge notice half an hour before my time in a car park had elapsed.

How can this be? It appears that our 'crime' was to top-up the two hours we had already paid for, thus spending more than the allocated time in said car park. I have paid the fine – £25, but doubling to a barely affordable £50 if not settled within 14 days. But I have also exercised our right to appeal.

It does beg the question of how many other unsuspecting motorists – simply in the wrong place at the wrong time – have been caught this way. On only our second visit to the town in question, we were oblivious to the regulations and not aware of any advisory signs, so hopefully common sense will prevail.

However, it is galling that there are people out there who knowingly disregard the law and even ignore any punishment that comes their way.

Campaigners claim payments are just another way of making money from hard-working people, while authorities argue that income generated from parking fines is ploughed back into our highways and making them safer.

Judging by the number of potholes still on our roads – even after The Chronicle's extensive campaign – one could argue otherwise.

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Immigration not to blame for NHS

JOHN Reed (letter 15 January), with his references to 'population' and inviting people to this 'small island', not very subtly attributes the NHS crisis on immigration.

This assertion is easily tested. The United Kingdom is neither the EU country with the highest absolute number of immigrants nor the highest proportion of immigrants as a percentage of the population. The provision of a publicly-funded health service is commonplace in Europe; that's why the sensible traveller acquires an EHIC card.

So, if immigration is the cause of the NHS

Take politics out of NHS

crisis, we could reasonably expect it to be replicated in all countries with significant immigration. However, I don't recall reports of patients parked in ambulances outside A and E in Bremen, or accommodated on trolleys in the corridors of hospitals in Milan.

No,

this is a British problem, made by British governments. Population seems to be an issue in only one area – the proportion of hospital beds to people, where the UK has one of the worst performances in Europe.

ALAN T HARRISON
Walsall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Walsall Chronicle,
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Family size issue must be addressed

I SHARE the anxiety and frustration expressed by Keith Watkins (E&S, January 13) concerning the massive population increase in our country caused by unchecked immigration and excessive family size.

We are a small country and should not be expected to do more than our fair share of solving the world's problems.

Every couple intending to produce children should

think hard about family size and face up to the fact that to do more than just replace themselves is bad for the planet.

We do not seem to have any politicians who will admit there is a problem; much less do anything about it.

How can we change this? The Green Party continues to dodge the issue.

JOHN LESTER
Walsall

He and the PCC David Jamieson should be pushing for thugs who assault anyone to receive tougher sentences than are currently handed down.

Police do a job most of wouldn't even dream of doing, but they should not be considered of higher value than the public they are meant to serve.

TREVOR HOWARD
Wolverhampton

AFTER a vicious attack on one of his officers, West Midlands Police Chief Constable Dave Thompson is calling for tougher sentences on thugs who assault police.

He and the PCC David Jamieson should be pushing for thugs who assault anyone to receive tougher sentences than are currently handed down.

Police do a job most of wouldn't even dream of doing, but they should not be considered of higher value than the public they are meant to serve.

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Cocaine dealer sent to jail for three years

A MAN hooked on drugs and gambling has been jailed for dealing cocaine.

It was the second time Dilshad Ahmed had been caught selling drugs, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The judge was told plain clothes officers saw a group of known dealers in conversation with the occupants of a rented Audi A4 in Tasker Street, Walsall at 3pm on May 4.

The driver of an unmarked police car parked bonnet-to-bonnet with the Audi that quickly reversed and drove off at speed, evading police by mounting the pavement, said Mr Andrew Baker, prosecuting.

The officers gave chase and the Audi was found abandoned near £100 cash in a foot well, empty dealer bags in the glove box and a mobile phone with the SIM card removed, he added.

Recognised

Ahmed and a 17-year-old youth, who cannot be identified, were spotted in nearby streets and recognised as two of the three occupants. The driver has not been traced.

The 33-year-old had seven wraps of crack while the teenager had 14 wraps of heroin, £514 cash, a dealer list and mobile phone.

Mr Devon Small, defending, said Ahmed had been addicted to drugs for many years. He added: "He had been given drugs by somebody else and told if he sold them he would be paid £80 for the night's work."

"He has been diagnosed as suffering from Bipolar disorder and his use of cannabis is said to have played a significant role in the development of these mental issues."

Ahmed, from St Paul's Road, Smethwick, who was previously jailed for dealing heroin, pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine with intent to supply. Judge John Wait jailed him for three years two months.

The teenager was dealt with separately at youth court and sentenced to an 18-month detention and training order.

Car is classic tribute to son



Steve Richards and Peter Swain from RBW Sports and Classic with Pete Dicks, the Austin Healey and photograph of Paul McCartney and

A BEAT-UP classic car is having a make-over in memory of a beloved son who died a year ago from a brain tumour.

Pete Dicks, aged 64, and Janet Dicks, 62, from Aldridge, lost their only son and father-of-four James Paul Dicks to brain cancer, which he diagnosed himself, just over a year ago when he was only 36.

As a medical physicist, who had a PhD in Chemistry when he was 25, he discovered his own tumour when he went for a brain scan in November 2012. In his memory, they are

getting their Austin Healey Frogeye Sprite from 1959 restored which they will also exhibit to raise money for St Giles Hospice, who took care of him in his last few weeks, and the Brain Tumour Charity.

They will partly be funding the renovations by auctioning off original photos of Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr which was given to him by the photographer. The car is currently at RBW Sports and Classics in Shenstone who have recently finished acid washing it to remove loose contaminants such as dust and dirt.

Throughout his life, he met the likes of Ringo Starr and Neil Innes through his father's job as a radio presenter of the show Beatles and Beyond.

Shopkeeper fined for selling illegal cigs

A SHOPKEEPER has been convicted of selling contraband cigarettes and tobacco more than two years after his shop was raided.

Trading Standards swooped on Baltic Mini Mart, Stafford Street, Walsall, in November 2015 seizing 12,900 cigarettes (645 packs) and 56.5kg of hand rolling tobacco (113 pouches).

Following a lengthy and detailed investigation shopkeeper Aram Mohammed Khadir was subsequently prosecuted by HM Revenue and Customs. The 32-year-old from Cormill Close, Walsall, ultimately pleaded guilty to four charges under the Trade Marks Act.

At Wolverhampton Magistrates'

Court he was sentenced to a 12-month community and ordered to carry out 80 hours of unpaid work. Khadir was also told to pay £3,393.65 in costs and a victim surcharge of £80. Walsall Council cabinet chief Ian Shires said: "The sale of counterfeit and non duty paid tobacco pose a significant risk to the health of residents."

Auschwitz survivor says lessons must be learned

'THIS must never be allowed to happen again.'

An Auschwitz survivor has urged people to learn lessons from the past in order to avoid the horrific persecution carried out by the Nazi regime.

Mindu Hornick, aged 88, addressed a crowd at a Black Country church ahead Saturday's Holocaust Memorial Day.

Speaking at the event in The Crossing at St Pauls in Walsall she said: "Holocaust Memorial Day is designed as a day for everyone to remember the millions of people murdered under Nazi persecution during the Holocaust."

Drafted

"We must challenge ourselves and use lessons from our shared experiences to look forward and shape our lives."

Mindu grew up in a small town outside Prague in Czechoslovakia with her family until her father was drafted to dig trenches for the German army in 1941.

A year later she was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau with her mother, older sister and two younger brothers.



Mindu Hornick, aged 88, speaks at The Crossing at St Pauls in Walsall

Mindu and her sister survived as they were sent to work in an ammunitions factory – but never saw their mother or brothers again. In May 1945, the concentration camp's surviving women and girls were loaded on to a train to an unknown destination, accompanied by SS guards.

The train was accidentally bombed by the Allies – who did not realise prisoners were on board – but both Mindu and her sister survived. Along with other survivors they were ordered by guards to walk to the port of Lübeck where their captors tried to load them into cattle trucks, claiming they were going to hand them over to the Red Cross.

Their real intention was to blow them up once they were all on board – but the group of prisoners refused to move until they were met by their liberators. Mindu came to the UK in 1948 after the Russian invasion of Prague and now lives in Edgbaston.

When she first moved over she lived with her aunt and uncle who had also survived the war and made a new life for herself. She is now a grandmother and for over a decade has been talking about her Holocaust experiences to young people and adults.

Mindu added: "By the painful sharing of what happened to me and my family in those terrible years, we are reminding people that the unimaginable happened to us and that this should never be allowed to happen again."

Mindu returned to Auschwitz back in 2015 for a memorial service which provided 'some kind of closure'.

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Eight homes raided by gang of rush robbers

EASTERN European robbers have struck eight times in just a matter of days across the Black Country, threatening and attacking victims in their own homes.

Police are appealing for information on the rush robberies, which have seen victims threatened with weapons and attacked before jewellery and cash was stolen.

Pictured on the right are the suspects West Midlands Police want to speak to.

Thieves struck first on Hill Street, Bradley, Wolverhampton, on January 13, with an address on Greets Green Road in West Bromwich targeted the same day.

Two days later, January 15, addresses in Oak Street, Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton and Bescot Road, Pleck, Walsall, were robbed.

Bleach

There was a robbery on Simcox Road, Wednesbury, on January 18 before the spate on January 19 in Wolverhampton where homes on Pine Close, Merridale, Three Tuns Lane, Bushbury, and Perton Road, Compton, were all robbed.

Up to five Eastern European suspects are understood to have burst into homes and on some occasions used bleach and cleaning fluids on the hands of victims in a sub-standard attempt to clean DNA evidence.

Inspector Ade George said: "We're currently investigating five crimes across Wolverhampton, and a further three in Sandwell and Walsall. Force has been used on a number of occasions and victims left traumatised by the experience.



CCTV images of the robbers who targeted Black Country homes

"We believe these criminals scope areas for homes that could be potential targets, I ask people to be aware of individuals or vehicles in their area acting suspiciously. If you are in any doubt, call police.

"People who behave in this way deserve no protection.

"We need people to come forward and tell us who they suspect is involved so we can take action, identify

and bring those responsible for these burglaries to justice.

"I'd also like to ask for residents who are reading this in the news or on social media, to help us inform the wider community by sharing this information with neighbours, friends and family members."

Anyone with any information is asked to call 101 on Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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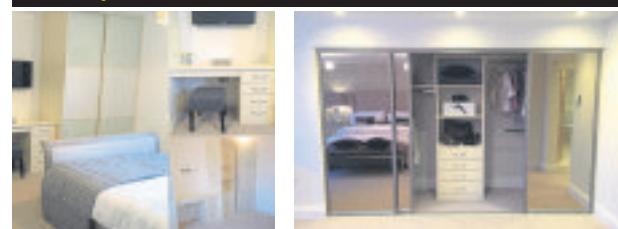


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Scout group celebrates £500 boost

A SCOUT group has been handed a £500 boost to buy a storage container for its outdoor equipment.

The donation came from M6 Toll operator Midland Expressway Ltd as part of its initiative to support local schools and community projects.

The 1st Cheslyn Hay Scout Group was founded in 1969 by Alan Carvey, who was once in the Scouts himself and decided that he wanted to give the village's youngsters the same opportunities he had.

Currently, the group has more than 40 members belonging to the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers sections, ranging in age from six to 18.

Wooden

The group is run by a group scout leader, 12 group leaders and four executive members, who all give their own time for no financial reward.

The group is located in a purpose-built brick-built hut after the previous wooden one was destroyed in a fire. The facility is also used by the Girl Guides and St Marks pre-school playgroup. Bob Massey, chair of the



From left, Group Scout Leader Mick Powell with 1st Cheslyn Hay Scout Group scouts and Sheena Hawkins, a member of Midland Expressway's social committee Scout group, said: "1st Cheslyn Hay M6 Toll we have been able to free up space for daily activities and store all the Scouts' equipment securely.

"Thank you to everyone at the M6 Toll for this very kind donation."

Jail on hold over images

A FATHER-of-four who downloaded tens of thousands of 'poisonous' images of children has been handed a suspended prison sentence.

A judge told 45-year-old Wayne Pugh he had not come across a case of its nature involving so many photographs.

Police were sent to Pugh's Walsall home in March last year where they seized a number of devices after conducting a search of the property, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

He claimed he had downloaded the images accidentally but forensic evidence revealed he had been involved in the activity for seven years, said Ms Sati Ruck, prosecuting. Officers found

62,410 images in the category 3 grade, of a less serious kind, and one image in the highest category A bracket, with some of the photographs involving children as young as three years of age. Pugh told police in interview that he had downloaded images on just three occasions when searching for pornography involving adults or teens, which he understood to mean 18 and 19-year-olds.

When sexual pictures of children appeared, he deleted them, alleging his computer had a facility to recover deleted material and that he must have hit that button by mistake. Pugh denied any sexual interest in children but accepted responsibility for the images on his computer.

Defending him, Mr Oliver Woolhouse said Pugh was of previous good character and was suffering from a number of medical issues. But Judge Timothy Raggatt, QC, said: "I have rarely been involved in a case involving such an enormous quantity of such images. To claim you downloaded them inadvertently is frankly ludicrous."

Pugh, of Severn Road, Walsall, pleaded guilty to two charges of making indecent images of children. The court heard that his partner was standing by him and the judge commended her for her support.

Handing Pugh a six-month prison sentence suspended for two years, he also ordered a two-year supervision programme to address his problems. An order was also made for the forfeiture of Pugh's computer and he was put on the sex offenders register for seven years.

Wards commit more mixed-sex breaches

Classic artwork on display



The work, by Hans Holbein the younger

Choir seeks director

BLOXWICH Community Chorus, with a history of more than 32 years, is looking for a new a musical director.

The group, with over 40 singers, needs to recruit a suitable conductor in the next few weeks to ensure its continuance. It is based at St John's Methodist Church, Victoria Avenue, where it performs a variety of musical pieces in two or three concerts each year. Anyone interested can call secretary, Marion Malaband, on 01922 458637.

ONE of the country's famous art gems is being shown at Walsall's New Art Gallery.

A Lady with a Squirrel and a Starling, by Hans Holbein the younger, is a much-loved work from the National Gallery Collection. It has arrived at the Gallery Square venue and will be on show until April 22.

The Masterpiece Tour is part of the National Gallery's commitment to promote the understanding, knowledge and appreciation of old masters' paintings to as wide an audience as possible. The work, dating back to the 1500s, is believed to feature Anne Lovell. Squirrels were popular pets in England as early as the 14th century.

The gallery has a permanent collection of more than 3,000 works and aims to explore ways in which art galleries can contribute to people's lives, connecting visitors with the work of the best contemporary and historic artists.

Stephen Snoddy, director, said: "We're delighted that the people of Walsall and our region will be able to come and enjoy this masterpiece."

"It will be the centrepiece display in our Family Gallery."

HOSPITALS in the Black Country breached mixed-sex accommodation rules on 133 occasions in three months – up a third from the same period the year before.

The figures for the last three months of last year are up from 80 over the same period in 2016.

Commonly, the rules are breached by members of the opposite sex sleeping in shared ward accommodation.

However, two hospital trusts say the breaches were caused by patients overstaying in shared sex intensive care and high dependency units, where a four-hour target applies to move patients to wards once they become stable.

The figures released by the NHS claim to show the 'total occurrences of unjustified mixing in relation to sleeping accommodation'.

Sandwell General Hospital, managed by Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust, was the worst offender with 95 breaches, although there were none in the month of December.

It was followed by Manor Hospital in Walsall, managed by Walsall Healthcare NHS Group, with 22 breaches and Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley, managed by the Dudley Group NHS, which had 14 breaches.

A spokesman at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust said: "These breaches were not on the wards. On the wards we have male bays and female bays so that mixed sex accommodation breaches do not happen. The breaches in December relate to patients that were being stepped down from the intensive care unit and the high dependency unit."

"When patients step down their level of care from these units there is a national four-hour target to move them off the unit into a ward. At this time of the year it is not always possible to meet that target because of the additional demand."

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Knife crime a 'priority' says new police boss

WALSALL'S new police chief has vowed to crack down on knife crime amid five incidents in four months.

Ch Supt Andy Parsons, who was appointed to the role on January 2, said tackling knife crime is a 'priority'.

In this month alone, eight-year-old Mylee Billingham in Brownhills along with Rezwan Ali in The Chuckery were fatally stabbed in separate incidents. It follows on from the death of 19-year-old Reagan Asbury, from Pelsall, who was stabbed at a boxing match in October.

Plus last month there were two incidents involving knives where a 32-year-old man was stabbed on Leicester Street on December 5 and on Christmas Eve, a man was stabbed outside UNIT nightclub at Bradford Place.

Important

He said: "Knife crime and the possession of knives is a priority for Walsall as a partnership.

"There is a huge range of partnership efforts that are being put in place around yellow jackets and knife arches, which is all important."

Education is the cornerstone of the schemes to tackle knife crime including commissioning street doctors and mentors in violence prevention.

They will commission junior doctors to talk to young people about the dangers of carrying a knife as well as have young people mentoring other young people in violence prevention.

He added: "If you carry a knife you are more likely to be the victim of that knife than the offender."

"We also want to highlight the medical issues of knife crime i.e. there is



Ch Supt Andy Parsons, who has promised to tackle knife crime

no safe place to stab somebody which I think is a widely held view with young people that they think there might be but we have seen national stories to prove that is not the case."

The 42-year-old has spent 20 years in the force which has been spent in the West Midlands.

He started in Smethwick before being a sergeant in Walsall when he

policed Moxley, Darlaston and Walsall. Since then he has worked in Handsworth, Dudley and Birmingham in the role of superintendent before his most recent promotion.

He added: "Walsall is not new for me, I know it and love it. It has got its traditions and issues like everywhere and my priority in the first few weeks is to understand the issues."

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Pair locked up over 'sickening' robberies

TWO robbers who targeted six vulnerable women in two hours by violently ripping jewellery from their necks have been locked up for a combined total of 14 years.

One of the victims was a blind 68-year-old who was robbed of a present from her late husband as she sat at a veterinary practice.

She suffered a heart attack and spent 36 hours in hospital recovering from the ordeal.

Josh Bluck, aged 25 and Cameron Ball, 18, were sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court by Judge Barry Berlin, who described their crimes as 'utterly sickening'.

Bluck drove a blue Audi A3, spotting the victims, while Ball carried out the robberies, in Burntwood, Lichfield, Walsall and Rushall.

Judge Berlin, sentencing Bluck to 12 years in prison and Ball to seven years in a young offenders institute, said: "These crimes against mature women in the street are utterly sickening. You cruised around looking for easy prey."

It started on September 29 in 2016, shortly before 1pm, when the first victim was walking in Myatt Avenue in Burntwood, said Ms Elizabeth Power, prosecuting. The 77-year-old victim spotted Ball before 'in a flash' he put his hand around her neck and pulled her necklace, valued at £100, from her and ran away.

Shortly after, at 1.25pm, in Upper John Street in Lichfield, a necklace worth £420 was ripped from the neck of a 56-year-old who was walking alone on her lunch break.

At 2.25pm, the pair next targeted a 70-year-old woman who was on a mobility scooter in Norton East Road in Norton Canes. Ball pulled off a necklace she was wearing and ran off.



Jailed – Joshua Bluck, aged 25

The jewellery was the last item her husband had bought her before he died. "She is now afraid to open her front door," said Ms Power.

Five minutes later, in Salters Road in Walsall Wood, a 65-year-old had a necklace worth £200 pulled off her by Ball. The blue Audi driven by Bluck was spotted nearby by bystanders.

At 2.45pm, the 68-year-old blind woman, called Elizabeth Smith, was attacked by Ball as she took her dog Halley for a blood test at First Vets in Leighswood Road in Aldridge.

Ball grabbed her in a headlock before taking the necklace, which was a 40th birthday present from her late husband Geoffrey.

Finally, five minutes later, in Barns Lane in Rushall, a 56-year-old was



Locked up – Cameron Ball, 18

robbed of her necklace belonging to her son who died a year before.

Reading the woman's victim impact statement, Ms Power said: "I do not trust anyone, I do not take this walk anymore. I am too frightened to be in the area."

Ball and Bluck were stopped by traffic police officers who recovered the stolen items from inside Bluck's boxer shorts. Ball fled, but was later arrested.

Ball, 18, of Green Rock Lane in Walsall, pleaded guilty to six counts of robbery at his first court appearance.

Bluck, 25, of Peaford Road in Pell-sall, was found guilty by a jury of the same charges following a trial.

Both have previous convictions which include attempted burglary.

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Eurofit Autocentres first opened in 2003 in Dudley Road, Blakenhall, and has since expanded across the UK with 12 autocentres to date.

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Teams at Eurofit have been expanded and recruitment continues to deliver exceptional customer service

has expanded and continues to recruit and deliver exceptional customer services. In doing so Eurofit has invested over £80,000 to build and form their first IMI approved training centre based in Bilston, that training centre opened in late November of 2017. Combining both theory and practical training of vehicle repair and customer service, there are two classrooms and two vehicle workshops for intensive study and training.

Craig Ross, the training manager, at Eurofit Autocentres, said: "The training centre will be a great opportunity to provide essential work-based study along with practical training for existing employees, managers and new recruits joining the team."

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Injunction puts brakes on car cruisers

Commercial feature

A GROUND-BREAKING injunction banning car cruising in the Black Country has been extended for a further three years.

The injunction bans people from taking part in a car cruise anywhere within Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall, or from promoting, organising or publicising any such event in the four areas.

It has had a major impact since being introduced in 2015, leading to a significant reduction in car cruising in many parts of the Black Country, with the problem being eliminated entirely in some areas.

Some 17 people have also been convicted of breaching the injunction, either by participating in or organising a car cruise, and have received suspended prison sentences, been fined up to £1,000 and ordered to pay court costs.

Menace

However, there are still car cruising hotspots in the region with a number of fatalities linked to car cruising in recent years, and so the four Black Country boroughs, led by the City of Wolverhampton Council and West Midlands Police, were successful in seeking a continuation of the injunction until February 1, 2021 at the Birmingham District Registry of the High Court on January 9, 2018.

Councillor Paul Sweet, the City of Wolverhampton Council's Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing, said: "Car cruising is noisy, dangerous and illegal, causing damage to property and posing a risk of injury or worse to participants and the general public alike. It also takes up a lot of valuable time for our hard-pressed emergency services."

"Since its introduction in 2015, the injunction has helped to dramatically reduce the menace of car cruising across the Black Country, eliminating it altogether in certain areas.

"However, the problem has not been entirely



CCTV footage captured car cruising in a car park

eradicated; car cruises are still being held in our region, sometimes with fatal consequences."

Councillor Milkinder Jaspal, Cabinet Member for Governance, said: "The City of Wolverhampton Council's legal team was instrumental in securing this injunction, enabling the police and the four Black Country councils to continue to crack down on car cruising and to bring perpetrators to book.

"It should be stressed that we are not seeking to prevent legitimate car enthusiasts from enjoying their hobby. What we want to do is to continue to prevent the menace of car cruising, which for so long made life a misery for people across the Black Country."

PC Stuart Hemming, from West Midlands Police, said: "We will continue to work with councils in the Black Country to eradicate this anti-social and dangerous behaviour and make our boroughs safer places."

Incidents of car cruising should be reported to West Midlands Police on 101. In an emergency,

always dial 999. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/carcruisingban>

The Injunction

Under the terms of the injunction:

1) It is forbidden for anyone to participate in "car cruising" (as defined in the Schedule below) anywhere within the Claimants' combined geographical area known locally as the Black Country Area.

2) It is also forbidden for anyone to promote, organise, or publicise via e-mail, the internet or any publication or broadcast, any "car cruising" within the defined geographical area.

3) A power of arrest pursuant to section 27 Police and Criminal Justice Act 2006 shall apply to clause 1 above.

4) The order and power of arrest shall continue in force for a further three years following the commencement of this order or until it is varied or discharged by the court. This extension of the duration of the order



Ground-breaking – The car cruising ban has been extended in the Black Country

shall come into effect at midnight on February 2, 2018 (when the order as originally granted ceases to be in force) provided that the Claimants have completed certain steps. It shall, subject to further order, expire at midnight on February 1, 2021.

5) Personal service of this injunction is dispensed with pursuant to rule 81.8 of the Civil Procedure Rules.

Schedule

1) The injunction defines car cruising as two or more motor vehicles (including motorbikes) between the hours of 3pm and 7am being on a highway or in a publicly accessible place within the Black Country area at which any such vehicle or occupant of a vehicle performs any of the prohibited activities listed in clause 3 below which causes, or is capable of causing, any of the prohibited consequences set out in clause 4 below.

2) Participating in car cruising means being

the driver of, or being carried in (or on), a motor vehicle (including motorbikes) in circumstances in which clause 1 (above) applies.

3) The prohibited activities referred to in clause 1 above are: speeding; driving in convoy; racing; performing stunts; sounding horns or playing music as to cause a nuisance; using foul or abusive language; using threatening, intimidating behaviour towards another person; and causing obstruction on a public highway, whether moving or stationary.

4) The prohibited consequences referred to in clause 1 above are: excessive noise; danger or risk of injury to road users, including pedestrians; damage or significant risk of damage to property; risk of harm; nuisance; and annoyance.

The copy of the full injunction and map showing the Black Country area is available at <http://bit.ly/carcruisingban> and council and police offices.

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Carpets Direct 2U is easily accessible to everyone in the area with retail premises in Aldridge and Pelsall and a huge warehouse in Norton Canes which is open to the public and has thousands of rolls in stock ready for customers to take away. Most recently, Carpets Direct 2U is proud to have opened a new retail store at 10 Cannock Road, Swan Island, Burntwood where the family look forward to serving both existing and new customers in Burntwood and the surrounding areas.

Carpets Direct 2U has established a reputation for providing customers with good service and quality floor coverings, priced to suit everyone's pocket.

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So how do they do it? Generally, when buying a carpet to fit your room, this price will include other costs such as storage and distribution by the stockist. Carpets Direct 2U buy and sell in a different way. In simple terms they buy full rolls of carpet in bulk direct from the supplier, then cut them into standard room sizes and hold the stock themselves at their warehouse in Norton Canes. The savings they make are then passed Direct 2U. Discounts apply to all ranges. In addition to the vast range of stock they hold, they have hundreds of pattern and sample books to browse through in their showrooms or, you can take away samples to check and match against your individual colour scheme in the comfort of your own home.



Vinyls

The vinyl selection is endless at prices to suit everyone. In the store they stock remnants of all sizes: 2,3 and 4 metre widths with discounts of up to 75% off normal cut length prices. Any time of the day, every day you can go to Carpets Direct 2U and buy a cut-price piece of vinyl, 2m x 2m for £25.

If you want a particular range or you don't see what you're looking for, you can order just what you want from a number of sample books and normally get it delivered the very next day.

Fitting Service

Carpets Direct 2U offer a fully comprehensive fitting service, provided by a team of self employed professional fitters with vast experience in the flooring industry. If you require underlay Carpets Direct 2U stock a variety and sell it at discounted roll prices, which is half the normal cut length price.

Everyone's tastes are different whether it be 100% wool carpets or 100% polypropylene stain resistant carpets. The one thing every customer wants is quality carpets at the best possible price and that's what we give at Carpets Direct 2U," adds Robert.

Measuring Service

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William with his first wife who died in 1940

Leather clues to war heroics

RICHEBOURG in France to Ypres in Belgium – historic place names inscribed on a piece of leather by a First World War hero during his service.

The item, thought to be the back of a mirror, gives one of only a few clues behind the story of Sgt William Henry Cash, who was awarded the Military Medal for bravery 100 years ago.

His family believe the place names were locations Sgt Cash served as part of the Royal Field Artillery during the war.

But his son William and daughter-in-law Sheila have no idea behind his service. When alive, Sgt Cash would answer questions over his service by saying 'best forgotten'.

Along with the piece of leather, the family hold his war trousers and gaiters, and four medals, which include the Military Medal for brav-



The leather with its place names

ery, awarded on January 25 in 1918. Sgt Cash served as a horseman in his regiment from the beginning to the end of the war.

The family believe the bravery medal may have been for pulling a severely injured officer from a minefield. Mr Cash, aged 74, from Wal-



William, with his son William



The Military Medal, for bravery

sall, said: "My father never spoke about the war – whenever he was asked he would say 'best forgotten'.

"He was in the war from the beginning to the end, but I believe he was able to drop the whole experience from his mind, he didn't let it get to him."

He added: "I went through my childhood thinking he was an ordinary dad who was in the Army and came out with medals.

"But I didn't think much more than that. I wish I knew and would now like to know the story behind my father in the war."

"We have a piece of leather with place names written on, some we cannot make out. I think he noted wherever he went to."

Sgt Cash was born in Holtshall Lane in Walsall on January 28 in 1892. His father, also called William, ran a leather factory in Lime Street.

He had a brother called Howard and sister called Gladys and went to a school in Tantara Street.

When aged 24 he enlisted for the armed services – but no record beyond his regiment and medals remains on his war efforts.

Other medals he received were the Victory Medal, the 1914 Star Medal and the British War Medal.

After the war he worked as a metal pattern maker at Nori in Hatherton Street in Walsall, remaining at the firm till he was 65.

His first wife, Nelly, died in 1940 before he married Amanda. Sgt Cash died in 1967 and was buried at the Ryecroft Cemetery, while his wife died in 1990.

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It's a super trouper of a sunny musical

It's the ultimate feel-good show. *Mamma Mia* has been described as being the world's sunniest and most exhilarating smash-hit musical. Written by Abba stars Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus the musical is set on a Greek island paradise.

It is a story of love, friendship and identity and is cleverly told through the timeless songs of Abba. The lead character is Sophie Sheridan, who is played by Lucy May Barker.

The action centres around her quest to discover the father she's never known. It follows her story as Sophie's mother comes face to face with three men from her distant romantic past on the eve of a wedding they'll never forget.

The show, which runs at the Wolverhampton Grand from February 6 to 24, is irresistibly funny and has been thrilling audiences all around the world. Now it is coming to Wolverhampton for the first time.

Lucy May is looking forward to that – and says she has a blast playing Sophie each evening.

"Being able to create my own version of it is amazing. I want to transport people away to our little Greek island world. That helps them forget what they've seen before.

"Sophie has been played by others but this is my interpretation. I have so much to do in the show because the story is so full. I just trust the fact that I was chosen for the part and I bring my own confidence to it. There's so much to do in this job."

UPBEAT

The show is truly upbeat. The title of the musical was taken from the group's 1975 chart-topper *Mamma Mia*. Benny and Bjorn, who composed the original music for Abba, were involved in the development of the show from the beginning while singer Anni-Frid Lyngstad became involved financially and has attended many of the premieres around the world.

The musical includes such hits as *Super Trouper*, *Lay All Your Love on Me*, *Dancing Queen*, *Knowing Me*, *Knowing You*, *Take a Chance on Me*, *Thank You for the Music*, *Money, Money, Money*, *The Winner Takes It All*, *Voulez-Vous*, *SOS* and the title track. It has been seen by more than 60 million people around the world and a film version made in 2008 was a huge hit. That starred Meryl Streep, Colin Firth, Pierce Brosnan, Amanda Seyfried, Christine Baranski, Stellan Skarsgård and Julie Walters.

Lucy May says the show is so resolutely upbeat that it's impossible not to enjoy it. "I think it's hard for everyone not to have a great time. It's such a happy show and so if there's someone in the company who's down, it brings them straight up."

"People often come up with these amazing stories about how it makes them feel – the show is feel good."



Knowing me, knowing you – *Mamma Mia* is hit-packed fun



It's so upbeat. It gives the audience the chance to escape for a couple of hours. It is an absolute dream come true to play the role. I absolutely love the show and getting to perform it to all the lovely audience around the UK is a feeling like no other.

"I grew up listening to Abba and we had the *Abba Gold* CD in my mum's car, so I knew almost all the words already when I auditioned which was very handy ha ha! I love going on for *Lay All Your Love*.

"I love singing that number and from then on I don't leave the stage for the rest of the act which is a total rollercoaster."

The musical opened in the West End at the Prince Edward Theatre on April 6, 1999, and transferred to the Prince of Wales Theatre on June 9, 2004, where it played until September 2012. It has also featured on Broadway and at other cities around the world.

The present British tour has thrilled audiences the length and breadth of the UK and Lucy May says the responses have been remarkable.

"There was a review back at the start saying *Mamma Mia* should be available on the NHS. I've played it for the whole tour since 2016. With that

I want to transport people away to our little Greek island world

comes fantastic opportunities for learning and developing the role. I'd like to think I've got better. You practice something eight times a week and different audiences and different places give you different things. We were in Birmingham for 10 weeks and it was great and people are generally happy and cheery in the West Midlands: they're up for a good time.

"I've been to Wolverhampton before in other shows and the Grand is a beautiful theatre. There are some audiences that are slightly more serious in other parts of the UK, but Birmingham and Wolverhampton. But these are cities I love."

"To do big scale musicals that are uplifting and crowd-pleasing and positive is a gift."

"As a kid I did *Annie* and that really gave me the bug. Most of the people on stage or in the company had done it as kids, they'd done that in theatre school. So to go from doing that as a child to doing it as a professional in adult life is a dream. I try to always remember that. Not a lot of people have the opportunity to turn their childhood passion into their life passion – I'm one of the lucky ones."

For more entertainment news and reviews see **The Ticket** in your Express & Star every Friday.

A scene from Matthew Bourne's Cinderella



Cinderella dances in Blitz battered London

AUDIENCES have been laughing along to a star-studded pantomime production of Cinderella for several weeks at Birmingham Hippodrome but a very different, darker vision of the fairy tale is arriving at the venue next week.

Choreographer and leader of the New Adventures dance company Matthew Bourne, who thrilled audiences at the Hippodrome a year ago with his glamorous cinematic-styled version of The Red Shoes, has revived his take on Cinderella.

It is set in a Blitz-ruined wartime London where the threat of death has ignited a new age of hedonism as our heroine embarks on a dizzying romance with an

RAF pilot. Bourne's stylish vision, which was screened by BBC TV during the festive season from London's Sadler's Wells Theatre, is a revival of a production first performed 21 years ago and last revived a decade ago. It is a radical reworking that draws on a real life tragedy when popular London nightclub the Café de Paris took a direct hit from a Luftwaffe bomb.

The production keeps the magnificent Prokofiev score from the traditional ballet, in recorded form, and has potent imagery that often recalls Powell and Pressburger's classic 1946 wartime fantasy *A Matter of Life and Death*, about a pilot who briefly cheats death.

Matthew Bourne's Cinderella is staged from Tuesday to Saturday. See birminghamhippodrome.com or call 0844 338 5000.

Brief return to Rep for classic romance



One of the most acclaimed theatrical productions of recent years returns to Birmingham in February.

Kneehigh's production of Noël Coward's Brief Encounter, adapted and directed by Emma Rice, will be staged at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from tomorrow (Friday) until February 17.

Coward's Brief Encounter is one of the most haunting love stories ever and is particularly fondly remembered due David Lean's classic British movie from 1945 starring Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard.

A chance meeting in a railway station café brings together housewife Laura and doctor Alec and their casual friendship turns into a heart-breaking love story.

Both the play and the film inspired acclaimed director Emma Rice. She says: "Brief Encounter combines the romance of cinema with all that live theatre can offer; magic, passion, surprise, suggestion and naughtiness.

"I carry this show in my heart and couldn't be more excited to return to this heart-pounding production and bring it back to Birmingham. Radical and romantic, nostalgic but oh, so relevant – let

passions ignite!"

This award-winning production of Brief Encounter premiered at Birmingham Repertory Theatre in 2007 winning the hearts of audiences and critics alike. It subsequently triumphed in the West End, toured the globe and received dazzling reviews on Broadway.

The cast will feature Jim Sturgeon as Alec and Isabel Pollen as Laura. Brief Encounter will be directed by Emma Rice and designed by Neil Murray.

For more information see birmingham-rep.co.uk or for tickets call 0121 236 4455.

Japanese drums and Beethoven



Japanese taiko percussion group Kodo perform new work Evolution at Symphony Hall on Monday. Classical highlights at the Birmingham venue include Scottish violin virtuoso Nicola Benedetti, pictured, on Tuesday. She performs Beethoven's Fourth Symphony and his Violin Concerto with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. The CBSO conducted by Constantinos Carydis perform Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition on Wednesday.

Sub Pop's latest signing at the NAC

Californian singer-songwriter Jesca Hoop, who is currently based in Manchester, is in concert at the Newhampton Arts Centre in Wolverhampton on Monday. She has released five studio albums since she was encouraged to start her musical career by Tom Waits and Kathleen Brennan, and has worked with Guy Garvey and as a backing singer for Peter Gabriel. She recently signed to the Seattle-based Sub Pop label. Also coming to the NAC are the Jam-like Watford outfit The Spitfires on Saturday. American punk veterans the Dead Boys are at Digbeth's O2 Institute tomorrow (Friday). Reggae star Macka B is back on home turf for a gig at Bilton's Robin 2 on Saturday. Jazz and reggae singer Zara McFarlane is at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath on Wednesday.

ENTERTAINMENT

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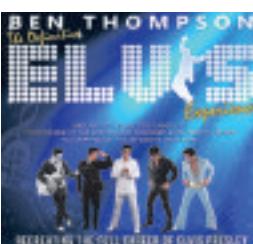
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CHOICE



Jim Sturgess

Hard Sun
(BBC1, 9.30pm)

A night jogger is murdered and brutalised in his home, and when Renko realises the victim is a man from her past, she realises his death has dire personal implications for both her and Daniel. Armed with knowledge of Renko's traumatic history, Hicks understands the significance of the man's death, but with the government breathing down his neck to secure the Hard Sun dossier, he once again finds himself at odds with her. Meanwhile, Daniel goes on the run after inadvertently claiming the Hard Sun flashdrive, but fleeing places him firmly in Grace Morrigan's cross-hairs. Pre-apocalyptic crime thriller, starring Jim Sturgess, Agyness Deyn, Nikki Amuka-Bird and Owain Arthur.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry Everyday. **(R) 12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Six Nations Preview. **1.45** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Wales v Scotland (Kick-off 2.15pm). **4.15** Live Six Nations Rugby Union.

7.00 BBC News.

7.10 Regional Programme.

7.15 All Together Now. The musical talent show continues, as Rob Beckett invites more singers to step on-stage for a chance to win a £50,000 cash prize. Facing a 100-strong panel of judges, the stars must not only deliver the performance of a lifetime, but also encourage the panellists to join in too. The more judges each singer manages to win over, the better their chances of proceeding to the grand final.

8.20 Casualty. New COO Avis Baxter arrives to find Holby in chaos. The hospital is at capacity, and a queue of ambulances laden with deteriorating patients is only making matters worse. Alicia is horrified when Ethan tows the management line, stating no more locums or nurses will be made available, and when his decisions result in a serious case of sepsis being missed, and breaks the rules to get the patient - an injured chef - into resuscitation. Meanwhile, eager new F1 Bea faces a trial by fire in the ED after offloading her uninteresting patients on old medical school pal Rash, and Charlie's plans to wine and dine Duffy on their anniversary fall short of the mark.

9.10 BBC News; Weather.

9.30 Hard Sun. The brutal murder of a night jogger has dire personal implications for both Renko and Daniel, and places Hicks at odds with a colleague he has come to respect.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Burnley v Manchester City, Manchester United v Huddersfield Town and Arsenal v Everton; National Lottery Update.

11.55 The NFL Show. Mark Chapman is joined by Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to look ahead to Super Bowl LI.

12.25 Film: Ill Manors. (2012) **2.20** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 The Wonder of Animals. **(R) 6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** Matilda and the Ramsay Bunch. **7.45** Matilda and the Ramsay Bunch. **8.00** The Denegears. **8.30** Deadly Top 10. **(R) 9.00** Robot Wars. **(R) 10.00** Robot Wars. **(R) 11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. **(R) 12.00** The Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure. **(R) 1.00** Live Davis Cup Tennis. Spain v Great Britain. **3.30** Nigel Slater's Middle East. **(R) 4.30** Final Score. **5.15** Flog It! **(R)**

6.00 Hugh's Wild West. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's West Country tour continues as he visits the Somerset Levels, where he witnesses the natural spectacle of huge flocks of starlings swirling in the sky as they come in to roost for the winter. He also discovers how the Levels' dedicated volunteers have helped to maintain crucial reedbeds, which have now become havens for rare bitterns and great white egrets. Plus, Hugh observes the large blue butterfly, which has been brought back to the region by a local enthusiast, and meets nature enthusiast Stephen Hembury, who has been capturing local wildlife on film, but is having little luck recording elusive hares.

7.00 A House Through Time. David Olusoga concludes the house's story, revealing how it was once almost demolished, then became a home for creative people and meeting the current owner. Last in the series. **(R)**

8.00 Dad's Army. Mainwaring is accused of leaving a light burning in the church during a blackout, and receives a summons to appear in court. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. **(R)**

8.30 Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs. Paul Murton embarks on a journey from Lraig on Loch Shin to Lochinver and finally, to the summit of Sgurrain - one of the most distinctive mountains in Scotland.

9.00 QI XL. Jason Manford, Jimmy Carr and Victoria Coren Mitchell join Alan Davies and Sandi Toksvig for an extended edition of the unconventional quiz.

9.45 Live at the Apollo. **(R)**

10.30 Film: The Talented Mr Ripley. (1999)

12.40 Film: Albatross. (2011) **2.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knockers Street. **(R) 6.20** Bottom Knockers Street. **(R) 6.35** Dino Dana. **(R) 6.50** Super 4. **(R) 7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. **(R) 7.05** Marvel Ultimate Spider-Man vs The Sinister Six. **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled. **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. **(R) 7.55** Scrambled!: Fangbone. **(R) 8.10** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. **(R) 8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scoot!-Doo. **8.35** Scrambled!: Wishart. **(R) 9.25** ITV News. **9.30** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Dancing on Ice. **(R) 1.20** ITV News: Weather. **1.30** Film: Evan Almighty. (2007) Comedy sequel, starring Steve Carell. **3.15** Catchphrase. **(R) 4.00** Tipping Point. **(R) 5.00** The Chase. **(R) 6.00** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.05** ITV News: Weather.

6.15 New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill introduces more viewer-submitted comedy clips, including a drone's destructive encounter with an errant baseball, and a photo-shy seal.

6.40 Take Me Out. Men from Leeds, Dublin, Edinburgh and Swansea seek the approval of the 30 single ladies sitting on Paddy McGuinness's panel.

8.00 The Voice UK. The Blind Auditions enter their fifth week, as Will.i.am, Jennifer Hudson, Olly Murs and Toni Jones reassemble to assess the singing skills of more would-be stars. Emma Willis ushers the contestants on-stage where, yet again, the coaches must decide whether they would like to back each performer based on the power of their voice, rather than their appearance. Only once a coach decides to support the singer are they permitted to turn their chair around, and any of the contestants chosen could be in with a chance of securing a recording contract with Polydor.

9.30 Through the Keyhole. Keith Lemon infiltrates the homes of another three mystery celebrities, and challenges Shane Richie, Rachel Riley and Alex James to guess "who inhabitates in a house like this".

10.30 ITV News: Weather.

10.45 Film: Lethal Weapon. (1987) Action thriller, with Mel Gibson and Danny Glover.

12.40 Jackpot247. **3.30** Babushka. **(R) 3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

SATURDAY'S TV FEBRUARY 3

CHANNEL 4

6.15 3rd Rock from the Sun. **(R) 6.45** 3rd Rock from the Sun. **(R) 7.10** The King of Queens. **(R) 7.35** The King of Queens. **(R) 8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **(R) 8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. **(R) 8.55** Frasier. **(R) 9.25** Frasier. **(R) 9.55** Frasier. **(R) 10.25** The Big Bang Theory. **(R) 10.55** The Big Bang Theory. **(R) 11.25** The Big Bang Theory. **(R) 11.55** The Simpsons. **(R) 12.25** The Simpsons. **(R) 1.25** Come Dine with Me. **(R) 2.25** Coast vs Country. **(R) 3.25** A Place in the Sun. **(R) 4.30** The Secret Life of the Zoo. **(R) 5.35** The Supervet. **(R) 6.30** Channel 4 News.

7.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales explore the landscape of north-west Portugal as they embark on a voyage down the Rio Douro. It's a journey that combines two of their favourite things - water and wine - as they follow the route taken by Yorkshire-born port entrepreneur Baron Forrester, and visit some stunning wine estates. The couple also stop off at the Factory House, a traditional English gentlemen's club that lies in the heart of the city of Porto. **(R)**

8.00 Village of the Year with Penelope Keith. Five villages from the Central Zone, which reaches from the west of Ireland to the Midlands, compete for a place in the final, as judges Alex Langlands, Patrick Grant and Juliet Sargeant assess their merits.

9.00 Film: Suffragette. (2015) Premiere. A woman joins a campaign to gain the right to vote in 1912. She and her allies find their peaceful protests accomplishing little in the face of an unwavering state, so resort to increasingly violent measures, risking everything they have in the pursuit of political justice. Period drama, starring Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter, Anne-Marie Duff and Meryl Streep.

11.10 Film: About Time. (2013) A man learns he has the ability to travel through time and uses the power to improve his love life. Romantic fantasy comedy, with Domhnall Gleeson and Rachel McAdams.

1.20 The Last Leg. With guest Stephen Fry. **(R) 2.15** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Grace and Trigger's plan backfires. **(R) 4.20** Coast vs Country. A woman seeks a new life in north Wales. **(R) 5.15** Location, Location, Location. **(R)**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.40** Funnist Fails. Falls & Flips. **(R) 11.05** Police Interceptors. **(R) 12.00** Police Interceptors. **(R) 1.00** The A-Team. **(R) 2.00** The A-Team. **(R) 3.00** Nightmare Tenants. Slum Landlords. **(R) 4.00** Nightmare Tenants. Slum Landlords. **(R) 5.00** Rich House, Poor House. **(R) 5.55** 5 News Weekend.

6.00 The Wonderful World of Puppies. The canine development documentary continues by exploring how puppies use their key senses - smell, touch, sight and hearing - to absorb information about their new surroundings, and crucially, make a start on broadening their horizons. Six-week-old golden retriever Dakin demonstrates how his ever-developing brain helps improve his stature and coordination, and a litter of bull mastiff pups are left balled by a mirror. A cocker spaniel destined to become a working dog illustrates how selective breeding can encourage desirable abilities, and a corgi with a big future as a show-dog must first overcome a few crucial hurdles.

7.00 Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind-Ups. Joe Pasquale showcases one last selection of pranks, with laughs coming at the expense of Justin Timberlake and Louis Walsh, among others. Last in the series.

8.00 Blind Date. A white witch from Preston seeks to cast her spell on three eligible bachelors, and former military man Dean from Wiltshire sets out to find his dream girl. Last in the series.

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games, including Wolverhampton Wanderers v Sheffield United, Aston Villa v Burton Albion and Leeds United v Cardiff City.

9.55 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including Bristol Rovers v Shrewsbury Town and Plymouth Argyle v Blackburn Rovers.

10.25 The X-Files. **(R)**

11.15 The X-Files. **(R)**

12.10 SuperCasino. **3.10** Film: Vampire Academy. (2014) **4.45** House Doctor. **(R) 5.10** Great Artists. **(R) 5.35** House Busters. **(R)**

12.00 Take Me Out 1.15 Totally You've Been Framed! Gold. **2.20** Film: Yogi Bear. (2010) **3.20** FYI Daily 3.25 Film: Yogi Bear. (2010) **4.00** Film: Mr Bean's Holiday. (2007) **5.00** FYI Daily 5.05 Film: Mr Bean's Holiday. (2007) **5.45** Film: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) **6.50** FYI Daily 6.55 Film: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) **9.00** Film: 22 Jump Street (2014) **10.00** FYI Daily 10.05 Film: 22 Jump Street (2014) **11.15** Family Guy 12.15 American Dad! **1.10** Release the Hounds 2.05 Ibiza Weekender 3.00 Teleshopping

1.15 Film: Columbo: Dagger of the Mind. (1972) **4.55** Midsomer Murders 11.00 Foyle's War 1.00 On the Buses 1.55 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

1.20 Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind-Ups. Joe Pasquale showcases one last selection of pranks, with laughs coming at the expense of Justin Timberlake and Louis Walsh, among others. Last in the series.

1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Sandown. Coverage of today's Sandown Park, Musselburgh, and Wetherby. **4.00** Film: Smokey and the Bandit (1977) **5.00** Storage Wars 6.45 Live World Boxing Super Series. Murat Gassiev v Yunier Dorticos. **11.30** Film: Pale Rider (1985) **1.50** The Professionals 2.55 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping

4.45 Film: The Goldbergs 2.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: Transformers: Dark of the Moon (2011) **10.55** Gogglebox 2.10 Rude Tube 3.05 Naked Attraction 4.00 How I Met Your Mother 4.45 Rude(ish) Tube

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11.00 Duncheck Checks In (1996) **1.00** Johnny English (2003) **2.45** Carry On Cleo (1964) **4.35** The Family Stone (2005) Festive comedy drama, with Sarah Jessica Parker. **6.45** The River Wild (1994) **9.00** The Inbetweeners 2 (2014) The awkward teenagers find university does not live up to their expectations, and go to Australia in search of adventure. Comedy sequel, starring Simon Bird and James Buckley. **10.55** The Hallow (2015) Premiere. Horror, starring Joseph Mawle. **12.00** Troll Hunter (2010) **3.05** Close

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Sicily: Wonder of the Mediterranean **8.00** Nature's Miniature Miracles: Natural World 9.00 Spiral 11.05 Top of the Pops: 1985 12.10 Elvis: That's Alright Mama **1.00** Years On 1.10 Sicily: Wonder of the Mediterranean **2.10** Nature's Miniature Miracles: Natural World 3.10 Close

ITV2

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7 Days
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Isle of Skye & Great Highland Railways

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- ✓ First and last night on a B&B basis at a selected hotel, Glasgow area
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- ✓ Heritage train journeys on the West Highland Line & the Kyle of Lochalsh to Inverness Railway
- ✓ Guided tour of the Isle of Skye
- ✓ Ferry from Armadale to Mallaig
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- ✓ Escorted by a tour manager in Scotland

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SUNDAY'S TV FEBRUARY 4

CHOICE



Shaun Evans

Endeavour (ITV, 8pm)

New series. The newly promoted Detective Sergeant Morse investigates when a famous international thief tries to steal a Faberge egg from an auction. The case leads to the gruesome murders of an academic and a gangster, and Morse is convinced the deaths are the work of the same man. As he struggles with his new responsibilities, he finds himself forced to mentor a younger partner (played by Poldark's Lewis Peck). Shaun Evans, Roger Allam, Anton Lesser, James Bradshaw, Sean Rigby, Dakota Blue Richards, Abigail Thaw, Caroline O'Neill and Sara Vickers star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. **1.15** The Truth About Getting Fit. (R) 2.15 Wonders of the Moon. (R) 3.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Songs of Praise. **4.20** Film: The Proposal. (2009) Romantic comedy, starring Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds.

6.05 BBC News.

6.20 Regional Programme.

6.30 Countryfile. Reports on winter from around the country. Matt Baker meets a Dorset man championing local winter produce, and Anita Rani discovers the therapeutic benefit of making jewellery. Steve Brown learns to drive a team of huskies, Joe Crowley meets a man with a lifelong passion for deer, Adam Henson visits a farm where gathering the sheep is a risky business, and Ellie Harrison learns about foxes. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.30 Still Open All Hours. Granville and Gastric come up with a romantic plan to persuade Madge and Mavis to stay. However, it involves spending a little more money than the shopkeeper is comfortable with.

8.00 Call the Midwife. Nurse Crane and Trixie investigate when a mother abandons her children at the clinic. When the woman is sent to a neurologist, the results are devastating for the whole family.

9.00 McFafia. Alex is forced to admit the truth as peace negotiations in Istanbul get underway between Semyon and his enemies, but he does not realise he is about to suffer a further betrayal.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day. Action from this afternoon's Premier League fixtures – Liverpool v Tottenham Hotspur at Anfield and Crystal Palace v Newcastle United at Selhurst Park.

11.15 American Football: Super Bowl LI. New England Patriots v Philadelphia Eagles (kick-off 11.30pm). Mark Chapman presents coverage of the showpiece match.

12.05 Film: Yves Saint Laurent. (2014) 2.05 Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **3.05** Holby City. (R) **4.05** This Is BBC Two.

BBC2

7.05 Gardeners' World. (R) **7.35** Countryfile. (R) **8.30** Saturday Kitchen. Best Bites. **10.00** Live Davis Cup Tennis. **1.00** Money for Nothing. (R) 1.30 Orson Welles: Talking Pictures. (R) **2.10** Film: Jane Eyre. (1943) **3.45** The Crane Gang. (R) **4.45** Elise Christie: In from the Cold. **5.15** Ski Sunday.

6.00 Six Nations Rugby Special. Italy v England. John Inverdale presents action from the concluding match of the opening round of fixtures, held at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome.

7.00 New York: America's Busiest City. Ade Adepitan, Anita Rani, Ant Anstead and Dan Snow take a closer look at one of the most powerful cities in the world, focusing on transport links in the first edition. (R)

8.00 Yellowstone: The Blazing Summer. Summer in Yellowstone brings a new challenge for the beavers as their river dries up, while the wolves have a surprising strategy to keep their pups fed. Last in the series. (R)

9.00 Dragons' Den. The panel assesses the profit-making potential of more business ideas, including a range of language-learning children's books and skin care products made out of hemp.

10.00 The Mash Report. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R)

10.30 Insert Name Here. Miles Jupp, Kate Williams, Sally Phillips and Roisin Conaty join captains Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe to answer Sue Perkins' questions about famous people who share a name. (R)

11.00 Cleverman. Boondie becomes the first public victim of the sinister "Process". Charlotte suspects there is something terribly wrong with her pregnancy, and Koen is reunited with an old friend.

11.55 Women's Six Nations Highlights. Action from the opening round of fixtures, which featured Wales v Scotland at Parc Eirias, France v Ireland at Stade Ernest Wallon, and Italy v England at Stadio Mirabell.

12.25 Film: Yves Saint Laurent. (2014) 2.05 Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **3.05** Holby City. (R) **4.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel Ultimate Spider-Man vs the Sinister Six. **7.30** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.55** Scrambled!: Mr Bean. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Spy School. (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** The Money League. (R) **11.30** The Voice UK. (R) **1.00** TV News; Weather. **1.10** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **1.40** The Cruise: Return to the Mediterranean. (R) **2.15** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Italy v England (kick-off 3.00pm). **5.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.40** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 Dancing on Ice. Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby present the next stage as the contest reaches the halfway point, with nine celebrities still in the running to be crowned this year's champion. However, they still need to impress judges Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean, Ashley Banjo and Jason Gardiner with their talents to avoid the skate-off.

8.00 Endeavour. New series. The detective investigates when a famous international thief tries to steal a Faberge egg from an auction – but the case leads to two gruesome murders.

10.00 ITV News: Weather.

10.15 Peston on Sunday. Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with Allegra Stratton. (R)

11.15 Next of Kin. Mora is released from custody and agrees to become a tasked witness, which means she'll a covert source for the police in their attempts to bring in her nephew Danny. However, the fallout from her actions at home is disastrous and her marriage comes under more strain than ever. Thriller about a doctor who is drawn into a tangle of betrayal, conspiracy and murder after her brother's kidnapping brings buried family secrets to light, starring Archie Panjabi, Jack Davenport, Claire Skinner and Vivek Kalra. (R)

12.15 Great Art. (R) **1.05** Jackpot247. Interactive gaming. **3.00** Take on the Twisters. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **6.15** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Fraser. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.35** The Simpsons. (R) **2.05** The Simpsons. (R) **2.35** Film: Never Been Kissed. (1999) Romantic comedy, with Drew Barrymore and Michael Vartan. **4.40** Film: Shark Tale. (2004) Animated comedy, with the voice of Will Smith.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Posh Pawn. The return of the programme offering an insight into the world of high-end pawnbroking. James takes a ride around London in an eye-catching supercar, with an aspiring fitness guru who's looking for £80,000. With her eyes on a round-the-world cruise costing £30,000, an adventurous retiree wants to sell a collection of handbags and jewellery. A car enthusiast contacts memorabilia expert Lawrence about a helmet that once belonged to land speed record-breaker Donald Campbell, and James faces a dilemma when he gets an offer for one of his favourite impulse buys. (R)

8.00 The Biggest Little Railway in the World. The model train is only halfway through its journey to Inverness, but has to drive through bad weather and harsh terrain with the volunteers due to head home. Last in the series.

9.00 SAS: Who Dares Wins. The seven recruits who have made it to the final stage of the contest face the most gruelling challenge so far – which only one of them will complete. Last in the series.

10.00 Maltese: The Mafia Detective. New series. Italian crime drama following a Sicilian detective who is drawn into a struggle with the Mafia after he witnesses the murder of his best friend and his fiance.

11.15 Film: Elizabeth. (1998) Elizabeth I's rise to the throne is threatened as enemies within the court and overseas plot to bring about her downfall. Historical drama, with Cate Blanchett and Geoffrey Rush.

1.25 The World's Most Expensive Food. (R) **2.20** The Supervet. (R) **3.15** Sarah Beeny's Four Rooms. (R) **4.10** KOTV Boxing Weekly.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Little Princess. **6.15** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.25** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.35** Wisper. (R) **6.45** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.50** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.55** Simon. (R) **7.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.20** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.30** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.40** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.15** Milkshake!: Detective. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Shimmy and Shine. (R) **9.35** Digby. (R) **9.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.55** Police Interceptors: Death Pursuits. (R) **1.55** Film: John the English Reborn. (2011) Spy comedy sequel, starring Rowan Atkinson. **3.55** News Weekend. **4.00** Film: The Last Airbender. (2010) Fantasy adventure, starring Noah Ringer. **5.00** News Update. **5.05** Film: The Last Airbender. (2010) Concluded.

6.00 Film: Bulletproof Monk. (2003) A mysterious Tibetan monk is entrusted with protecting an ancient and mystical scroll. As modern-day Nazis seek out the relic in a bid to resurrect the Third Reich, the monk searches for a suitable successor to take over his task – and a pickpocket is the unlikely choice. Martial arts thriller, starring Chow Yun-Fat, Sean William Scott, Jaime King, Victoria Smurfit and Karel Roden. Edited for violence.

8.00 Film: Batman Begins. (2005) Billionaire Bruce Wayne travels the world seeking the means to fight injustice, consumed with rage over his parents' murder. Trained by a secret society, he hones his fighting skills and returns to his home city of Gotham on a mission to rid it of crime and corruption in the guise of a masked vigilante. Comic-book adventure, exploring the origins of the Dark Knight, with Christian Bale, Michael Caine, Liam Neeson, Cillian Murphy, Gary Oldman and Katie Holmes.

9.00 5 News Update.

9.05 Film: Batman Begins. (2005) Concluded.

10.00 Film: The Punisher. (2004)

1.05 The X-Files. (R) **2.45** SuperCasino. **4.00** Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Cuba with Simon Reeve **9.00** Scotland's Vital Spark: The Clyde Puffer **10.00** Arena: Stanley and His Daughters **11.15** Stanley Spencer: The Colours of the Clyde **11.45** The Story of Maths **1.45** Cuba with Simon Reeve **2.45** Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection **3.45** Close

ITV2

11.40 Take Me Out **1.00** The Voice UK **2.30** Film: Beethoven (1992) **3.30** FYI Daily **3.35** Film: Beethoven (1992) **4.10** Film: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **5.10** FYI Daily **5.15** Film: Cats & Dogs: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) **6.55** FYI Daily **7.00** Film: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) **9.00** (ibiza Weekender) **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.30** Totally Bonkers **2.20** Teleshopping

ITV3

11.50 Lewis **1.50** A Touch of Frost **3.50** Inspector Morse **6.00** Agatha Christie's Mistletoe **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **11.00** Film: The Constant Gardener (2005) **1.30** Blue Murder **2.45** George and Mildred

ITV4

11.10 Pawn Stars **1.00** Film: Lonely Are the Brave (1962) **2.00** FYI Daily **2.05** Film: Lonely Are the Brave (1962) **3.15** Film: Smokey and the Bandit (1977) **5.05** Film: Thunderball (1965) **6.05** FYI Daily **6.10** Film: Thunderball (1965) **7.50** Hornblower **10.00** Film: Source Code (2011) **11.05** Film: The Gauntlet (1977) **12.55** FYI Daily **1.00** Film: The Gauntlet (1977) **2.05** The Professionals **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

1.05 Toy Story Toons: Small Fry **1.15** The Big Bang Theory: Go Dating **5.45** The Big Bang Theory **6.45** Film: The Devil Wears Prada (2006) **9.00** Celebs Go Dating **10.00** Film: This Means War (2012) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory **1.00** Celebs Go Dating **2.00** First Dates

Film4

1.00 Catch That Kid (2004) **2.55** Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) **4.35** Dante's Peak (1997) **6.45** The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (2013) **9.00** No Escape (2015) **11.05** Queen and Country (2014) **1.20** Atonement (2007) **3.45** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Silence of the Lambs, Channel 5, 10pm

Trainee FBI agent Clarice Starling is sent to interview an imprisoned psychopath with a taste for eating his victims. The inmate offers to help catch a serial killer who is holding a politician's daughter hostage - but to learn what he knows, Clarice has to engage in his dangerous mind games. Jonathan Demme's Oscar-winning thriller, based on Thomas Harris's novel, starring Jodie Foster, Anthony Hopkins, Scott Glenn and Ted Levine. (1991)

TUESDAY

The Devil's Teardrop, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A serial killer terrorises Washington DC, with a ransom note the only clue to his identity. A handwriting analyst agrees to help the FBI with their investigation, but also has to deal with fighting his ex-wife for custody of their children. Crime drama based on Jeffery Deaver's novel, starring Tom Everett Scott and Natasha Henstridge. (2010)



Looper, Friday, BBC2, 11.05pm

WEDNESDAY

Midnight Stallion, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A 15-year-old girl and her parents are desperate to save their struggling farm, and when they discover a wild stallion in a nearby forest they begin to wonder if it could be the answer to their prayers. Drama, starring Kris Kristofferson. (2013)

THURSDAY

Abducted: The Carlina White Story, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A couple take their three-week-old baby to a hospital for treatment, but she is snatched by a woman desperate for a child. She raises the infant as her own for years, but as the girl grows up, she begins to suspect the truth and resolves to investigate her kidnapping and find her parents. Fact-based drama, starring Keke Palmer and Aunjanue Ellis. (2012)

FRIDAY

Looper, BBC2, 11.05pm

A hitman employed to kill people who have been sent back in time finds his latest target is his future self. Sci-fi thriller, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Bruce Willis. (2012)

Will the truth still be out there for Mulder and Scully?

Bringing shows back from the dead is all the rage these days - and it's probably all Doctor Who's fault.

The much-loved sci-fi show was axed in 1989, was revived in 1996 as a lacklustre TV movie, and then disappeared again until 2005 when it made a triumphant return; it's now one of the BBC's biggest hits, with the next run set to shake things up when, for the first time, a woman (Broadchurch star Jodie Whittaker) will play the Time Lord.

In May 2017, David Lynch's surreal Twin Peaks returned after a 26-year hiatus, but before that, The X-Files ended its 14-year exile with a well-received 10th season.

Now we caught up with its main characters - FBI agent Mulder and Scully - who had been living separate lives for years; she was working at her medical practice, while he ploughed his own furrow. They were initially brought back together by a cable TV host who wanted them to help him expose a sinister organisation he believed

had the power to control the American public.

What came as a big surprise was that Channel 5 bagged the chance to broadcast it in this country rather than the BBC, who had the rights to the original run, or Sky.

Prior to it being shown in the UK, some speculated that perhaps the big guns hadn't wanted the show because it had lost its sparkle. However, their fears were soon dispelled - despite some critics being unkind, fans were thrilled by each episode.

Now it's back for a new run of 10 tales, but there's some sadness attached to that - Gillian Anderson has already announced that she's played Scully for the final time; even if The X-Files returns, she will no longer be a part of it - so enjoy her appearance here while you can.

Really, her decision to return to the programme that made her name was something of a surprise. In recent years she's become highly sought after on both sides of the Atlantic thanks to acclaimed

performances in The Fall, Great Expectations, The Crimson Petal and the White, War and Peace and Hannibal; Anderson no longer needs the boost to her career that The X-Files once gave her.

She is, however, in the thick of things during the first episode, which begins when Mulder finds Scully unconscious on the floor of their FBI office.

It's discovered that her brain is in a frenzy of activity, and when she eventually awakes, Scully claims she has had a premonition that suggest the end of the world is nigh - and the only person who can prevent that happening is their mysterious son William.

Will the duo find him? What will he look like, and is his mother right about his ability to save the planet?

We don't know yet, but there's another question that needs to be answered: Anderson may have quit, but will her co-star, David Duchovny, be willing to return?

Nobody knows, but the truth is out there...



Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny, The X-Files, Monday, Channel 5, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

My Return from IS - Panorama
BBC1, 8.30pm

The programme tells the story of a British woman who is back in the UK after living with so-called Islamic State in Syria for more than two years before managing to escape with the help of her mother. She was arrested, but after extensive debriefing by counterterrorist officers the CPS decided there were no grounds for prosecution. 'Fatima' tells Panorama reporter Peter Taylor how the group has hijacked Islam, with men acting as cannon fodder and women used for cooking, cleaning and giving birth.

TUESDAY

The Secret Life of 5 Year Olds: All Girls
Channel 4, 8pm

They are one of the most powerful forces in the universe who can get whatever they want with one look. They are five year old girls, and as this one-off reminds us, they are not to be underestimated, as Eva, Jet, Miyah and Zaina prove. The familiar faces are joined by a fresh cast of new girls, while child development experts Dr Elizabeth Kilby and Laverne Antrobus watch the drama unfold and provide insight into their behaviour. Cameras reveal how the girls see themselves - and the role of women - in 2018.

WEDNESDAY

Eurovision: You Decide
BBC2, 7.30pm

The Brighton Dome has an important place in Eurovision history - it's the venue where Abba, arguably the contest's biggest gift to the world, won in 1974 with Waterloo. But will some of their magic rub off on this year's would-be UK representatives as they take to the stage in the hope of being chosen by the public and a panel of experts? The acts battling it out are former Britain's Got Talent contestant Asanda, girl group Goldstone, soul singer Jaz Ellington, musical theatre actor Jaz Ellington, DJ and singer RAYA and SuRie, who has previously performed as a backing vocalist at Eurovision.

Meanwhile, another Swedish champion, 2015 winner MÅns Zelmerlöw, joins Eurovision superfan Mel Giedroyc on hosting duties.

My Millionaire Migrant Boss

Channel 4, 9pm

It's been claimed that many immigrants to the UK end up taking jobs that Brits don't want, but is this work ethic the reason why they are three-times more

likely to become millionaires than people who were born here? Liverpool-based Palestinian Marwan Koukash would seem to be proof that hard work does pay off. He arrived in 1976 with just £200 and is now a multi-millionaire with several business interests and a string of prize-winning racehorses.

He wants to give something back to his adoptive country by offering four unemployed people a two-week work trial and the chance to be mentored by him. Will they rise to the challenge and prove they have the right attitude to get a permanent job at the end of the placement?

THURSDAY

Winter Olympics:
Countdown to the
Games
BBC2, 7pm

The funding of winter sports in the UK has more than doubled since the Winter Olympics in Sochi in 2014, and it's hoped that will be reflected in Team GB's performance this year - their

medal target for the games in PyeongChang, South Korea, is between eight and 12. On the eve of the opening ceremony, Clare Balding meets some of the athletes who are hoping to contribute to that tally including short track speed skater Elise Christie, who is looking for redemption after the heartbreak of being disqualified three times in Sochi, and skeleton bob star Lizzy Yarnold, who aims to become the first Briton to retain a Winter Olympic gold medal. But as well as looking ahead to the Games, Balding will also be learning more about the host country - including the impact of the rising tensions between neighbouring North Korea and the USA.

FRIDAY

Lethal Weapon
ITV, 9pm

Although Lethal Weapon (the films, as well as this TV series) are primarily action dramas, they have always had a strong comedy element. And this comes to the fore this week as Thomas Lennon's Leo Getz returns, which pushes Murtaugh (Damon Wayans) and Riggs (Clayne Crawford) to up their banter game. Tonight's story follows the cops as they investigate a death that occurred moments before the victim won a fortune on a horse race.



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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

Three-bedroomed semi would be ideal for a young family

Delightfully positioned in a cul-de-sac location off Stone Lane, Bloxwich, 13 Ambergate Close is a well presented three-bedroomed semi-detached property ideal for a young family.

It is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents through a traditional auction, having a guide price of £140,000.

The auction will take place at Wolverhampton's Molineux Stadium on Thursday, February 8 at 7pm, with registration at 6pm.

Having gas central heating and double glazing, its accommodation includes a glazed porch and a reception hall with stairs to the first floor and an understairs storage cupboard.

The lounge has a feature fireplace with an inset coal-effect electric fire, a window to the front and an archway to the dining room.

The kitchen is fitted with wall and base cupboard units with roll-edge worktops, a stainless steel single drainer sink unit, a gas cooker point and a door to the utility room. This has plumbing for an automatic washing machine and doors to the garage and rear. There is a downstairs WC.

Off the first floor landing, bedroom one has fitted wardrobes and a window to the front. Bedroom two has a window to the rear, while bedroom three has a built-in wardrobe and overlooks the front. The family bathroom has a white suite comprising a panelled bath, a separate walk-in shower cubicle, a pedestal wash hand basin, a low flush WC, a window to the rear and a hatch to roof space.

Outside, the rear garden has paved and gravelled patio areas and a side entrance leading to the front. The garage has an up-and-over door and a side window.

This property is offered by unconditional auction terms. The successful buyer is required to pay a 10 per cent deposit requiring an immediate exchange of contracts. In addition to the 10 per cent deposit required for exchange of contracts, a buyers Reservation Fee of 3.5 per cent to a minimum of £5,000.00 plus VAT (£1,000) equalling (£6,000) will also be payable by the successful purchaser. The buyer will be granted 28 days from the date of exchange to complete the purchase. This property is subject to an undisclosed reserve price.

BLOXWICH £140,000

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Skitts

TEL: 01922 478104

EMAIL: bloxwich@skitts.net



KEY FEATURES

For sale by auction

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3 bedrooms

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Cul-de-sac position



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PROPERTY



Three-bedroomed property is light and spacious

Right on the border with Walsall, this three-bedroomed end of terrace house in Addenbrooke Street, Wednesbury, is light and spacious, having been refurbished throughout.

With a rear garden so big it has the potential to house a five-a-side football pitch, it is for sale through loveyourpostcode.com at £149,950.

This property is situated in an excellent cul-de-sac position, with Rough Hay Primary School and George Rose Park a short distance,

WEDNESBURY
£149,950

whilst being within close proximity of Walsall Canal, the Black Country Route, Darlaston Community Association and public transport links.

It has an entrance hallway which branches off to three rooms. The front reception room is of a good sized with a neutral finish. The

second room is the living room which is light, airy and has larger than average windows. The kitchen is neat, modern and finished with a range of floor based units. The ground floor WC completes this floor.

Upstairs, all three bedrooms have been finished to a neutral decor and are of a good size. The upstairs family bathroom completes this floor.

Contact loveyourpostcode.com on 0800 862 0871.

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AUCTION

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56 Willingsworth Rd, Wednesbury
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59 Dovedale Avenue, Willenhall
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1 Rosemary Avenue, Bilston
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Guide: £19,000-£24,000
(plus fees)



22 Richard Williams Rd, Wednesbury
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(plus fees)



12 Wolverley Avenue, Warstones
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Guide: £69,000-£74,000
(plus fees)



Athlone, Angela Place, Bilston
3 Bed Semi Detached House
Guide: £45,000+ (plus fees)



210 Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield
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24 Galbraith Close, Bilston
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(plus fees)



91 Addenbrooke St, Wednesbury
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AUCTION

15th February 2018

at Aston Villa Football Ground

View: 2/2 @ 13.15; 3/2 @ 12.15; 5/2 @ 13.15 & 7/2 @ 12.15



34 Argyle Road, Wolverhampton
3 bed mid terraced house
Guide: £19,000 - £24,000
(plus fees)

View: 2/2 @ 12.15; 3/2 @ 13.15; 5/2 @ 12.15 & 7/2 @ 13.15



Lower Villiers St, Wolverhampton
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £49,000 - £54,000
(plus fees)

View: 2/2 @ 12.15; 5/2 @ 12.15; 7/2 @ 13.30 & 10/2 @ 13.30



Cavendish Gds, Wolverhampton
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000
(plus fees)

View: 2/2 @ 10.45; 3/2 @ 14.45; 5/2 @ 10.45 & 7/2 @ 14.25



46 Limes Road, Tettenhall
3 bed mid terraced house
Guide: £50,000+
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 15.45; 7/2 @ 10.00 & 10/2 @ 10.00



11 Beakes Road, Bearwood
4 bed mid terraced house
Guide: £50,000+
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 10.00; 7/2 @ 15.45 & 10/2 @ 15.45



107 Grosvenor Road, Handsworth
3 bed detached house
Guide: £50,000+ (plus fees)

View: 3/2 @ 12.45; 5/2 @ 12.45 & 7/2 @ 12.45



34 Fowler St, Wolverhampton
2/3 bed semi detached bungalow
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 14.45, 7/2 @ 11.00 & 10/2 @ 11.00



105 Bunn's Lane, Dudley
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £69,000 - £74,000
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 13.30; 7/2 @ 12.15 & 10/2 @ 12.15



123 Ivyhouse Lane, Coseley
2 bed mid terraced house
Guide: £19,000-£24,000
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 11.30; 7/2 @ 14.15 & 10/2 @ 14.15



173 Great Bridge Road, Bilston
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000
(plus fees)

View: 3/2 @ 11.45; 5/2 @ 13.45 & 7/2 @ 11.45



Longdon Avenue, Goldthorn Park
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £79,000 - £84,000
(plus fees)

View: 3/2 @ 10.00; 5/2 @ 15.30 & 7/2 @ 10.00



89 Blackhalve Lane, Wednesfield
2 bed mid terraced house
Guide: £19,000 - £24,000
(plus fees)

View: 3/2 @ 15.30; 5/2 @ 10.00 & 7/2 @ 15.30



369 Stafford Road, Wolverhampton
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £50,000+ (plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 14.00; 7/2 @ 11.45 & 10/2 @ 11.45



24 Galbraith Close, Bilston
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000
(plus fees)

View: 3/2 @ 14.00; 5/2 @ 11.30 & 7/2 @ 14.00



12 Wolverley Avenue, Penn
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £69,000 - £74,000
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 10.45; 7/2 @ 15.00 & 10/2 @ 15.00



2 Cygnet Road, West Bromwich
2 bed semi detached house
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000
(plus fees)

View: 5/2 @ 13.00; 7/2 @ 12.45 & 10/2 @ 12.45



1A Woodcross Lane, Wolverhampton
4 bed semi detached house
Guide: £50,000+ (plus fees)

View: 3/2 @ 11.00; 5/2 @ 14.30 & 7/2 @ 11.00



3 Giffard Road, Wolverhampton
3 bed semi detached house
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000
(plus fees)

View by appointment with the auctioneer



Malcolm Court, Wolverhampton
Current gross income: £4,500 pa
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000
(plus fees)

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Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price. Any additional fees will be confirmed in the legal pack which can be downloaded from our website, inspected at our offices or in the auction room before bidding. For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve Price please refer to our catalogue or website. For the Energy Performance Rating of each property please refer to the legal pack, our catalogue or website. Please contact our office for further details or advice.



NEXT AUCTION

THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2018
AT MOLINEUX STADIUM
WATERLOO ROAD
WOLVERHAMPTON, WV1 4QR
6.00PM REGISTRATION 7.00PM START

Netley Road, Bloxwich Walsall
Auction Guide Price £70,000




	1		2
	1	EPC D	

Richard Williams Road, Wednesbury
Auction Guide Price £70,000




	1		3
	1	EPC F	

Victoria Avenue, Walsall
Auction Guide Price £140,000




	3		3
	1	EPC G	

Elston Hall Lane, Oxley Wolverhampton
Auction Guide Price £85,000




	2		3
	1	EPC D	

Ambergate Close, Bloxwich Walsall
Auction Guide Price £140,000




	2		3
	1	EPC D	

Fisher Street, Willenhall
Auction Guide Price £72,000



	2		2
	1	EPC E	

The Avenue, Castlecroft Wolverhampton
Auction Guide Price £145,000



	1		3
	1	EPC D	

Contact your Local High Street Branch.

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bilston@skitts.net	01902 353578
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greatbridge@skitts.net	0121 520 2255
sedgley@skitts.net	01902 686868
wednesbury@skitts.net	0121 505 1818
wednesfield@skitts.net	01902 732324
westbromwich@skitts.net	0121 530 4240
wolverhampton@skitts.net	01902 788188
lettings@skitts.net	0121 520 2255

Mill Lane, Willenhall
Auction Guide Price £117,000




	2		3
	1	EPC E	

Temple Square, Willenhall
Auction Guide Price £87,000




	2		3
	1	EPCTBC	

Himley Close, Willenhall
Auction Guide Price £104,000



	2		3
	1	EPC D	

L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



UPPER PENN



GREAT HALL GROVE, W'TON
Five Bedroom Executive Detached, Lounge & Separate Study, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Guest W.C, Family Bathroom, En-Suite to both Master & Bedroom 2, Office/Den, Double Garage & Off Road Parking

OIEO £650,000

NEW INVENTION



BALMORAL DRIVE, W'HALL
Four Bedroom Semi Detached, Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted L Shaped Kitchen, Ground Floor Shower Room, Separate Utility, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Garage & Driveway, Private Rear Garden

OIEO £185,000

SUMMER HAYES



FENN RISE, WILLENHALL
Extended Three Bed Semi Detached Bungalow, Spacious Lounge, Extended Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bedroom, Ground Floor Family Bathroom, Two First Floor Bedrooms, D/Glazing & C/Heating

£180,000

ESSINGTON



NEW STREET, ESSINGTON
Three Bed End Terrace, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room/Ground Floor W.C, First Floor Bathroom, Second Floor Study, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Rear Garden, Viewing Advised, Great F.T.B.

£129,995

QUEENS LEA



TILDESLEY DRIVE, WILLENHALL
Three Bedroom Semi Detached, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom, C/H & Partial D/G, Private Rear Garden, Great Potential, Popular Location.

OIEO £110,000

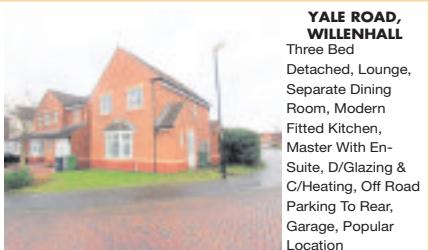
NEW INVENTION



SQUIRES GROVE, WILLENHALL
Two Bed Second Floor Apartment, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, En-Suite To Master Bedroom, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & Electric Heating, Allocated & Visitors Parking, Viewing Advised, Great FTB Or BTL Investment

OIEO £90,000

ST THOMAS LAWNS



YALE ROAD, WILLENHALL
Three Bed Detached, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Master With En-Suite, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Off Road Parking To Rear, Garage, Popular Location

£725 PCM

NEW INVENTION



BRERETON ROAD, WILLENHALL
Two Bed Mid Town House, Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Useful Side Storage, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Off Road Parking

£525 PCM

MOSSLEY



ABBEY SQUARE, WALSALL
Two Bed Semi, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Generous Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Viewing Recommended!

£500 PCM

NEW INVENTION



SQUIRES GROVE, WILLENHALL
Modern Two Bedroom Apartment, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, En-Suite, Allocated Parking, Sought After Location

£500 PCM

WILLENHALL



VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL
Two Bed Mid Terraced Property, Two Reception Rooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, D/Glazed & C/Heating, Family Bathroom, Viewing Highly Recommended

£495 PCM

WILLENHALL



STAFFORD ST, WILLENHALL
Spacious Two Bed Flat Being Set Over Two Floors, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Generous Double Bedrooms, Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating, Close To Willenhall Town Centre

£450 PCM

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GOSPORT CLOSE, BILSTON
Semi Detached Bungalow, Two Double Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & G/C/Heating, Private Rear Garden, Off Road Parking.

OIEO £105,000

WILLENHALL



TAMESIDE CLOSE, WILLENHALL
Four Bed Mid Town House, 50% Shared Ownership, Ground Floor Kitchen/Diner, First Floor Lounge, Master Bed With En-Suite, Three Second Floor Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Driveway & Garage, D/Glazing & C/Heating

50% £80,000, 100% £160,000

SHORT HEATH



BIRCHTREE H'W, W'HALL
Extended Four/Five Bed Semi, Spacious Open Plan Lounge/Diner, Separate Sitting/Play Room, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/Heating

£700 PCM

BEECHDALE



STEPHENSON AV, WALSALL
Two Bed Semi Detached, Two Reception Rooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Generous Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Driveway

£525 PCM

WILLENHALL



STAFFORD ST, WILLENHALL
Spacious Two Bed Flat Being Set Over Two Floors, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Generous Double Bedrooms, Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating, Close To Willenhall Town Centre

£450 PCM

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Redbourn Road, Bloxwich

- Four Bed Detached
- Front Lounge
- Rear Dining room
- Family Bathroom
- Breakfast Room/Kitchen

- En-suite Shower Room
- Separate Utility Area
- Gardens
- Ample Driveway Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£950 PCM



Broadway, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Lounge with Balcony
- Fitted Kitchen

- Rating:88
- Sorry No DHSS
-
-

£595 PCM

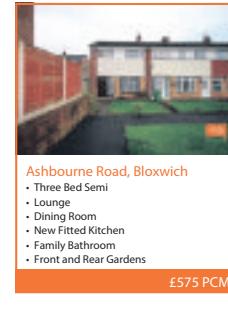


Terret Close, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Ensuite
- Allocated Parking

- Communal Entrance
- Electric heating
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers
- Rating:54

£525 PCM



Ashbourne Road, Bloxwich

- Three Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- New Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens

£575 PCM



St Davids Place, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom Semi
- Entrance Porch
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Sorry No DHSS Pets

£550 PCM

NEW



Neath Road, Bloxwich

- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Family Bathroom

- Front and Rear Gardens
- DHSS Accepted
- Sorry No Pets or Smokers

£525 PCM



Walker Road, Bloxwich

- Two Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Open Plan Lounge
- Family Bathroom

- Gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- Rating:87

£475 PCM



Thornbury Road, Walsall

- One Bedroom
- Entrance Hallway
- Open Plan Kitchen/Lounge
- Bathroom with Shower
- Rating: 69

- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers
-
-
-

£450 PCM



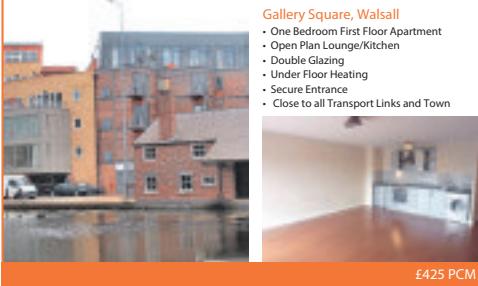
Signal Grove, Walsall

- One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Private Porch Entrance
- Lounge
- Open Plan Kitchen
- Rating:56
- DHSS Accepted

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- Three Bedroom Flat
- Large Lounge
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Newly Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- DHSS Accepted

£450 PCM



Gallery Square, Walsall

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Double Glazing
- Under Floor Heating
- Secure Entrance
- Close to all Transport Links and Town

£425 PCM



Fisher Road, Bloxwich

- One Bedroom Ground
- Off Road Parking
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Double Glazing
- Rating: 69
- DHSS Accepted, No Pets or Smokers

£400 PCM



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LOT 1

**Woden Road West
Wednesbury**

Wednesday 31st January at 10am



•Guide Price £55,000 PLUS

LOT 2

**Broadwaters Road
Wednesbury**

Wednesday 31st January at 10:30am



•Guide Price £47,500 PLUS

Auction
Monday 5th
February 2018
at 6.00pm Precisely

Banks's Stadium, Walsall
Football Club, Bescot
Crescent, Walsall, WS1 4SA

LOT 3

**Beech Road
Erdington**

By Appointment through auctioneers



•Guide Price £80,000 PLUS

LOT 4

**Glenavon Road
Birmingham**

By appointment through auctioneers



•Guide Price £77,500 PLUS

LOT 5

**Churchill Road
Walsall**

Wednesday 31st January at 11am



•Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

LOT 6

**Churchfield Avenue
Tipton**

By appointment through Auctioneers



•Guide Price £30,000 PLUS

LOT 8

**Buildwas Close
Walsall**

Wednesday 31st January at 1:30am



•Guide Price £59,000 PLUS

LOT 9

**Beaton Close
Willenhall**

Wednesday 31st January at 1pm



•Guide Price £40,000 PLUS

LOT 10

**Thorne Road
Willenhall**

Wednesday 31st January at 12:30pm



•Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

LOT 11

**Arden Road
Aston**

By appointment with the auctioneers



This traditionally styled Victorian mid-terrace property is situated in a popular convenient location with all amenities close at hand and has easy access to the city centre. Enjoying gas fired central heating and double glazing, the property has been maintained to a very high standard and internal inspection of the well planned spacious accommodation is highly recommended.

•Guide Price £140,000 PLUS

LOT 11a

**Albert Street
Cannock**

By appointment through the auctioneers



This two-bedroom double-fronted semi-detached house is ideally located within a popular residential area and briefly comprises, entrance porch, lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, utility room, two bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property also benefits from double glazing, gas central heating and a large rear garden.

•Guide Price £89,500 PLUS

LOT 12

**Chuckles Road
Walsall**

Wednesday 31st January at 11:30am



This three-bedroom semi-detached property is in need of modernisation throughout however does hold a lot of potential. The property is situated in a very popular residential area and with all amenities close at hand it comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge (4m x 3.9m), Kitchen (2.9m x 2.2m), Bathroom and W.C. First Floor: Bedroom one (4.2m x 3m), Bedroom two (2.6m x 2.4m), Bedroom three (3.2m x 2.4m) Outside: There are gardens at the front side and rear of the property. Providing the property with a generous plot.

•Guide Price £72,000 PLUS

LOT 14

**Walstead Road
Walsall**

Wednesday 31st January at 12pm



Situated in a popular residential area this traditionally styled gas centrally heated and double glazed semi-detached property offers tremendous scope for further improvement. With the benefit of gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing, the property has been extended at ground floor level and internal viewing of the spacious well proportioned accommodation is recommended. Set back from the road behind a block paved driveway with off street parking.

•Guide Price £135,000 PLUS

•Guides are provided as an indication of each seller's minimum expectation. They are not necessarily figures which a property will sell for and may change at any time prior to the auction. Each property will be offered subject to a Reserve (a figure below which the Auctioneer cannot sell the property during the auction) which we expect will be within the Guide Range or no more than 10% above a single figure Guide



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Paul Marrion - Partner



Kathy Marrion - Partner

Odell Crescent Bloxwich

Energy Rating - C **NEW**

Immaculately presented end terraced house
• Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed
• Rear Garden
• Lounge
• Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
• Family Bathroom
• 2 Bedrooms
• No Onward Chain

£140,000

Darlaston Road Pleck

Energy Rating - D **NEW**

Semi detached house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge/dining room, kitchen
• 2 bedrooms, shower room/WC
• Workshop
• Parking
• Gardens

£139,950

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Selsdon Road Turnberry

Energy Rating - D **NEW**

Detached house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge, kitchen, conservatory
• 2 bedrooms, shower room/WC
• Garage, carport
• Driveway
• Gardens

£189,950

Penmire Grove Walsall

Energy Rating - B **NEW**

Three Storey Town House
• PVCu double glazing & Gas Central Heating
• Fitted Kitchen
• Rear Lounge/Diner
• Three excellent sized Bedrooms
• (master with en-suite)
• Family Bathroom
• Rear Garden

£185,000

Appledore Court Walsall

Energy Rating - TBC **NEW**

To Let

Second floor flat
• PVCu double glazing & gas central heating
• Lounge, Kitchen
• One Bedroom
• Bathroom
• Shared parking to Rear.
• SORRY NO DSS, PETS OR SMOKERS
• £180 reference fees apply

£395

Bloxwich Road Walsall

Energy Rating - D **NEW**

Traditional Mid Terraced House
• PVCu Double Glazed
• Gas Central Heating
• Two Reception Rooms
• Two Bathrooms
• Fitted Kitchen
• Downstairs Bathroom
• Rear Garden & separate area giving secure off road

£110,000

Bealeys Avenue Wednesfield

Energy Rating - E **NEW**

To Let

Semi-Detached House
• Gas Central Heated & Double Glazed
• Lounge, Diner, Kitchen
• Utility Area, Downstairs Shower Room
• Conservatory, 2 Bedrooms
• Bathroom
• Rear Garden

£575

Buxton Close Lower Farm

Energy Rating - C **NEW**

Mid Terrace House
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge, Kitchen
• 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC
• Fore and Rear Gardens
• Viewing Essential
• No Onward Chain

£130,000

Wolverhampton Road Pelsall

Energy Rating - E **NEW**

Semi-Detached House
• Gas centrally heated
• Double glazed
• Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory
• 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC
• Small Garage/ Storage Area
• Driveway and garden
• Fitted Kitchen

£175,000

Ryle Street Bloxwich

Energy Rating - D **NEW**

End Terraced House
• Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
• Three Bedrooms,
• Front Lounge, Rear Breakfast Kitchen, Conservatory
• Bathroom, Large Detached Garage/Workshop
• Driveway.
• NO ONWARD CHAIN
• Must Be Viewed

£125,000

Park Home

Lodgefield Park Stafford

Energy Rating - TBC **NEW**

Well Maintained Park Home
• Being for the Over 55's
• Electric Heating, Hallway
• Lounge/Dining Room
• Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area
• 2 Double Bedrooms, En-Suite
• Family Bathroom
• Parking, Gardens

£100,000

Mulberry Road Bloxwich

Energy Rating - TBC **NEW**

Modern Refurbished Home
• 3 Bedrooms
• Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
• Lounge/Dining Room
• Conservatory
• Extended Re-Fitted Kitchen
• Family Bathroom
• No Onward Chain

£150,000

Broad Lane Bloxwich

Energy Rating - E **NEW**

Victorian end town house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• 2 reception rooms, kitchen
• 2 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
• Low maintenance garden
• Detached garage to rear
• No Onward Chain

£115,000

Nursery Road Bloxwich

Energy Rating - TBC **NEW**

To Let

Traditional Semi-Detached House
• PVCu double glazing and gas central heating.
• Front Lounge,
• Rear Kitchen/Diner
• 3 Bedrooms
• Shower Room/wc
• Off Road Parking, Rear Garden.
• SORRY NO DSS, PETS OR SMOKERS

£575

Church Street Bloxwich

Energy Rating - D **NEW**

End town house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed (where specified)
• Through Lounge, Dining Kitchen
• 3 Bedrooms
• Bathroom/WC
• NO ONWARD CHAIN
• Front and Rear Gardens

£100,000

Avon Road Blakelall

Energy Rating - C **NEW**

End terrace house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge, conservatory, kitchen
• 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
• Driveway parking
• Gardens
• No Onward Chain

£130,000

Hollybank Avenue Essington

Energy Rating - E **NEW**

Extended Semi Detached House
• Three Bedrooms
• Sought after cul de sac location
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating (where specified)
• Front Kitchen
• Rear Lounge/Diner
• Large Tandem Garage

£154,950

Woodbridge Close Turnberry

Energy Rating - E **REDUCED**

Detached house
• Gas centrally heated
• PVCu double glazed
• Lounge, dining kitchen, conservatory
• 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
• Garage, utility, gardens
• NO ONWARD CHAIN
• Must Be Viewed

£229,950

Bealeys Close Bloxwich

Energy Rating - C **REDUCED**

Modern Detached Family Home
• Gas Central Heating, PVCu Double Glazing
• Lounge, Dining Room, Study
• Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Utility Room, Conservatory
• Four Bedrooms,
• Ensuite Bathroom
• Family Bathroom, Detached Double Garage
• Driveway
• Private Rear Garden

£320,000

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sarah.winfield@expressandstar.co.uk

3 Post to...
 Sarah Jones, Walsall Chronicle,
 Queen Square, Cannock, WS11 1ES

40 Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

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FreeAds

IT'S
FREE
IT'S
EASY

For items up to £250

VISIT:

bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

Simply press the free ad icon.
Sorry, no pets, guns or livestock.
Private advertisers only.

Place a paid for advert

By Phone 01902 317878
8.30am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri.
Closed Sat/Sun and Bank Holidays

Online
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

In person
At your local Express & Star Office.
Cancel/amend, call before 3.00pm
Monday - Friday for the next day's
advertisement or also before 3.00pm
Friday for Monday's advertisement.

Funeral Directors

Turn To Us For Help and Support

In your time of need we'll take care of all the funeral arrangements.

- Est. 1907
- 24 hour service

G. Gibbs Funeral Directors

44 All Saints Way
West Bromwich B71 1PZ
0121 553 0442



Part of Dignity plc. A British Company.

Lost & Found

MISSING OR LOST
From Wordsworth Street, West Bromwich, Tinker, large, friendly black cat, wearing collar and name tag. If seen please ring 07522 788699 anytime.

1 Family

Elderly & Disabled

STRIDER SPORT MOBILITY SCOOTER, as new with front and rear lights and suspension, also velcro shopping bag. £400 o.n.o. 01922 647302.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

2 Leisure Time

Bikes

JACKSON-HATELEY CYCLES

www.jacksonhatelycycles.co.uk

MASSIVE JANUARY SALE STARTS TODAY

Some models to clear at cost price. Get your fantastic bargain now. All cycles built and guaranteed with a 24 hour repair service. Book your cycle now for Easter at sale price

HATELEY'S
Simply the best
Rita Dave
01902 782344
458 Stafford Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton

Caravans Wanted

All Caravans Wanted
Any Age or Condition
* CASH * WAITING *
Immediate collection
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

Caravans/ Motorhomes

CARAVANS FOR SALE with sea views. Clarach Bay near Aberystwyth. £9,995 includes 2016 site fees. Call Phil on: 01970 820579. sales.clarachbay.com

Collectables & Memorabilia



Caravans from £10,995 Near Aberystwyth

12 months owner season! Amazing facilities, funding options available from 10% deposit (T&Cs apply). Call Ciaran on 07542456117 or email CiaranAndrewWilliams@outlook.com

PC's, Laptops & Accessories

CLIENT COMPUTERS



THE BEATLES
Please Please Me LP, PCS3042, 1963, stereo, black parlophone label. Mint condition. £1,500 07526 001796.

Furniture



STATIC CARAVAN

Modern 6 berth atlas debonair 35 x 12. Kitchen, 2 bedrooms, lounge, bathroom with shower, gated decking. Fully heated. Woodland holiday pk tywyn.

£14,995 o.n.o. 07773 882409

Building Services

Building Services

P.FENLON BUILDERS All aspects of building. Block paving, plastering, brickwork etc. 01902 445315 / 07790 286187.

Building Supplies

RECLAIMED BRICKS, Tiles, Slates, Quarry tiles, York Stone, Cawarden 01899 574066. sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk

Carpentry & Joinery

SPR CARPENTRY Six internal pre-printed doors fully fitted from £570. 0121 5322672 or 07958 552625.

Carpet Fitters

A CARPETS & VINYL supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598 / 07941 619694.

Aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99
01902 858191 • 01384 429166
01543 439095 • 01922 716029

In Your Garden

6x5 Lap Panels
£17 each (inc vat)
WS3 2BQ
Bloxwich Fencing Ltd or 01922 712184

AT SHEDRITE Free Installation on all product orders! Tel: 01278 751258

SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN FACED, only £1.87 inc. VAT. Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED

That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

CASH PAID £300+ PER OUNCE FOR 9 CARAT GOLD. ANY AMOUNT COLLECTED!

Lady Buyer gold coins, pre - 47 silver coins, watches, costume jewellery, porcelain, any oriental items, old brass items, any silver items, War medals, military etc.

HOUSE CLEARANCES!

Call: 01922 495066 or 07971 783206

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertising today? Please do so respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Items Wanted

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

WANTED

VINTAGE TOYS

Star Wars, He-Man, Ghost

Busters, Ninja Turtles, Corgi or

Dinky.

All vintage toys considered.

Good prices paid.

Unleash the cash in your loft.

Call Tony on 07812 903338.

Antiques

Loans

READERS ARE REMINDED

that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

Appliance Repairs

A SAME DAY REPAIR - Cookers

Autos, Fridges, Vacs and Microns.

Call 07900 578897 / 07801 746853.

Data & Network Cabling

ALL CABLING FOR BROADBAND Internet, Telephone, Extensions and Repairs. Call 07960 173 589 or 0800 633 689.

Electrical Services

MB ELECTRIC CO.UK Home wiring services, 01902 551000. High quality local service. Freephone: 0800 211 8388 / 07939 503905.

Fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards £695
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

Driveways & Patios

C B SHEDS & FENCING
We supply & fit. Free quotes. Call: 01922 720270
We also supply sleepers and decking

Select
Driveways & Patios Ltd
Specialists in Paving & Landscaping
Insured and Registered
www.selectdrives.co.uk

BOOK YOUR ADVERTISEMENTS OR FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLINE AT
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk



Classified Ads

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."

Michael-
Portway Fencing

For great business
results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
Brought to you by Express & Star

Gardening Services



Landywood Tree & Landscaping Services
All garden work, tree felling/lopping,
pruning, hedges trimmed, turf,
patios, fencing, block-paving etc.
www.landywoodlandscaping.co.uk
01922 898 710 / 07973 177 976

Gas Fitting



GAS SERVICES
• Boilers • Cookers
• Fires • Gas Checks
• Landlord Certificates
• Gas Leaks Traced
Fitted, Serviced and Repaired
Same Day Service
Free Quotes
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPS
Call: 01902 366855/
07761 973975

READERS ARE ADVISED
To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

Gates

ALL METAL GATES, RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07933 500642 24 hours.

DARLASTON FABs 30 years exp in supplying/ fitting gates and railings. Free quotes: 07497 667752.

Guttering



Guttering & Roofing **25% OFF**
cleaned, repaired, replaced, fascias/ soffits, UPVC washdowns, all roofing/ repointing work. Free quotes, 8am-8pm
01902 722447

House Clearances



A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE
Full, part and single
rubbish removed.
Garage and sheds cleared.
Leather 3 piece suites and
leather chesterfields wanted.
01922 492007



**ALL ROUND
CLEARANCE**
Professional family run business
House clearances, sheds etc.,
also garages, sheds etc.
Telephone Kev
07794 912844

HAREVES HOUSE CLEARANCES
Quick, discreet and professional.
07939 421862 / 01902 410433

Kitchen Fitters

THE KITCHEN FITTER Over 20
years experience. Call 07981
654757 or 01543 373233.

Plans Prepared

ADAM DESIGN Building Plans.
Drawn and submitted to council.
Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037.
Email: adamdesign@sky.com

BUILDING Plans: Prepared/Submitted
R. J. Bradley 01902 373248
07792 165767. www.plans4u.co.uk

Plastering

D&C PLASTERING AND RENDERING
Fast, clean, reliable service.
Also building work. Free Quotes.
07793 747829 or 01543 300444.

MINT PLASTERING

For the very best in plastering and rendering,
full rooms materials from 110. Halls,
stairs and landings from 200
30 years experience.
Free quotes. All work guaranteed
01543 327130 / 07519 694516

Plumbing & Heating

A.A HEATING & PLUMBING All gas
work. Install Service/ Repair. Free
quotes call: 07540 950588.

A RELIABLE PLUMBER No job too
small. No call out fee. Call Lee:
07713 149278 / 01902 330351.

TAD PLUMBING & HEATING

For all your plumbing needs.
30 years experience
24 HOUR CALL OUT, NO FEE!
Call Trevor on 07791 319397
www.tadplumbingandheatingwolverhampton.co.uk

PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN
No job too small or large. Call Will
for a free quote on: 07521 411108.

Painters/ Decorators

C I PAINTING & DECORATING
Over 30 yrs experience. City &
Guilds approved. Free Quotes.
07913 732756 or 01902 650716.

ADMJ

Decorating & Maintenance
City and Guilds. No Job Too Small.
OAP Discounts
FREE QUOTES
07855 957935 01902 630028



Call Claire Smith: 01902 319661
claire.smith@expressandstar.co.uk

Removals

A2B REMOVALS Cheap and reliable
removal service. Insured.
07817 842980 or 01902 744829.

A DJ REMOVALS/ house clearance/
single item. Budget rates/reliable.
01902 652346/07912 980177

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your
Removal needs. 07429 453209/
01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

KC REMOVALS We beat any quote,
full or part loads, all areas. Anything
considered. Call on 07867 862227.

Roofing

CLIFF NICHOLLS
Roofing & Scaffolding
Rubber Roofing
37 years experience
FREEPHONE (0800) 220 - 729

MG ROOFING

Flat Roofing, Tiling, Roof Repairs,
Fascias and Gutters.
Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.
www.mgroofingwestmidlands.co.uk

Skip Hire

A absolute affordable skip
RUSSELL SKIPS
Mini, midi, skip
Prompt delivery / collection
(0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990

QUICKA SKIPS

Mini, Midi, 6 Yard with
doors and Builders.
7 days - Prompt Service
01902 404800 / 07983 580884
www.quickas skips.co.uk

DECORATORS!

CLAIM YOUR
FREE
ADVERT
(T&Cs Apply)

Call Claire Smith: 01902 319661
claire.smith@expressandstar.co.uk

Waste management



Recycling services
01902 459667
0121 558 2120
01543 500 599

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"We are very happy
with our Classified
Contract within the
Express & Star and
the enquiries our
adverts bring in."

Pally - Quika Skips

For great business
results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads

Brought to you by Express & Star

Grinsells Skip Hire LTD
Mini, Midi, Maxi, Large Skips.
Monday to Friday.
Saturday half day.
0121 555 6060

WOLVERHAMPTON SKIP HIRE

MINI, MIDI &
BUILDERS SKIPS
WITH DOORS
Established 26 years
Call:
01902 722876

GOLDSHILL SKIPS

Bring your own waste
cheaper than skips. General,
Green, Wood waste any size
vehicle. Phone for prices:
0121 557 3346

Upholstery

UPHOLSTERY SERVICES 3pcs/
springs/caravans/pubs/club/antiques.
01902 689844 / 07817 842980.

t.v. / home entertainment

Service

AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST
Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky,
CCTV cameras. TV wall mounts
and TV set ups. 07850 330251.

4 Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to
check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies
have the required Passport information.

Guns & Dogs

.177 AIR RIFLE. Diana model 38.
.177 air rifle and scope. Excellent
condition. New gun sleeve, plus
500 pellets. £170. 0121 555 8535.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers must ensure that
they meet all necessary legal
requirements for owning and using
guns.

Pets Corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when
purchasing a puppy there are
some simple guidelines there
to follow to ensure that you are not
purchasing from a Puppy
Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the
puppy whilst it is still with its
Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a
puppy from any other location
than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any
KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News
Association publications take
great care to avoid publication
of advertisements from Puppy
Farmers we cannot accept any
liability should readers
purchase from this kind of
establishment.

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS

All neutered, innoculated
and microchipped.
Call 01902 291080 or visit
www.gtwolverhampton.co.uk
Greyhound Trust Wolverhampton
@gtwolverhampton

5 Business & Farming

Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to
take appropriate professional
advice before entering into any obligations.

6 Property

Properties Wanted

We buy houses

Sell your house fast

- avoid repossession
- behind on payments
- job relocation
- unwanted inheritance

What more -

we buy in any condition

No estate agent fees

We pay all your legal fees

ACT NOW!

Contact us on :

07796 801219 / 07988 882090

**WE PAY 100% of purchase price
EVERY TIME!**

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!

FAST 4 Your House CASH
You agree the price, we buy the house...
• NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
• FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

0800 999 999 6
01384 500 500 **30 yrs**
www.black-countryhomes.co.uk * subject to terms

CASH NOW FOR YOUR HOUSE
UP TO **£25,000** **CASH ADVANCE NOW (in 24hrs)**
We can buy your house in **9 days**
Lines open 24 hours a day
7 days a week
Terms applicable

Yes! HOME BUYERS
THE EASY WAY TO SELL YOUR HOUSE

We Buy Houses For Cash
Free Valuation? Yes! No Fees? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
Fast Sale? Yes! Any House? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!

Get your FREE, instant cash offer today!
Call **01922 235 885**
or text "Cash" to 66777 yeshomebuyers.com

Accommodation To Let

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial
commitments/contracts.

NOTICE TO READERS

It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1993, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

J9 Accommodation
NO DEPOSIT MOVE IN TODAY★

Studios from £90pw*
Rooms from £65pw*
*Includes Most Bills

CHECK WEBSITE FOR LIVE LIST

Midland Landlord Accreditation Scheme

01902 213121

J9accommodation.com

Overseas Property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial
commitments.

7 Jobs

Building & Construction

PLASTER PATCHER REQUIRED

For immediate work. Working

housing sites in around West

Midlands. Must have current CSCS

card. Call 01922 276006 between

8am - 5pm.

Samantha.harland@walsall.nhs.uk

Closing date 12/2/2018

CV MATCHING. IT'S QUICK, EASY AND FREE
Real opportunities for you
jobs.expressandstar.com REAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Full Time General

MNA Media

SENIOR JOURNALISTS

The Midland News Association, publishers of the Shropshire Star and Express & Star, is looking for senior journalists to join its teams in Shropshire and Wolverhampton.

This is the ideal role for an ambitious, dedicated and enthusiastic writer with a proven track-record of digging out the best off-diary news stories, features and analysis. You should be comfortable writing for a range of publications including newspapers and magazines, as well as producing content for our digital and social media platforms.

You must be an NCTJ-trained journalist, able to deliver accurate, entertaining copy to meet strict deadlines. You must have a full, clean driving licence.

You will benefit from a competitive salary, 25 days annual holiday and the chance to develop your career at Britain's largest independent regional news company.

Apply by e-mail to Shropshire Star editor Martin Wright at editorial.support@shropshirestar.co.uk by 5pm on Monday, February 5.

Postal applications to Martin Wright, Editor, Shropshire Star, Ketley, Telford, TF1 5HU.

Owners of Express & Star Ltd and Shropshire Newspapers Ltd

Express & Star STAR

Barhale

Our successful tendering team is growing.
Our Walsall based team need:

SENIOR CIVIL ESTIMATOR

From a Civil Engineering background to join our already successful team, if this is of interest to you please go to the link below

<http://www.barhale.co.uk/barhale-careers/>
The reference details for this role are WC589

BID MANAGER / BID WRITER

We also need an experienced Bid Manager / Bid Writer to ensure that we deliver high quality, timely and compelling submissions.

A Civil engineering degree / HNC or similar would be beneficial for both roles.

For further information please go to our website and upload your CV to our link
<http://www.barhale.co.uk/barhale-careers/>
The Reference for this role is WC579 found on our website

Sales & Marketing

ABA CRANE HIRE LTD

Require

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

required for the West Midlands area based in WALSALL
Knowledge of the plant hire & construction industry would be an advantage.

Company vehicle supplied.
Excellent salary for the right applicant.

Email details to: annebaggottataba@aol.com

Courses

BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 May and 5-6 September
STOKE: 6-7 August **TELFORD:** 8-9 August
WOLVERHAMPTON: 8-9 March & 25-26 July

Learn how to take blood

TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST

Introduction to Phlebotomy

TWO DAY COURSE - NATIONALLY RECOGNISED

- Allied Healthcare Career Path
- Accredited (advanced) qualification
- No previous experience required

For more info, or to book online: www.geopace.com

Accredited OCN Training

High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

Cars Over £1500

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertised rate? It would be helpful to remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.



FORD CMAX TITANIUM

12 reg, 19,500 miles, TDCI, 1560cc diesel, £30 road tax, white with black interior, 5 door, top Titanium spec, air con, alarm, MoT to June.

£6,999.
07931 562064.

LOW MILEAGE

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI, Grey, January 2010, 5dr, 12 months MOT, 11,900 miles only. Fully loaded, Showroom condition.

Sale due to bereavement.
£4495 ono
07950 182891



VW BEETLE CABRIOLET
2.0 Automatic Petrol.
Silver with black top and full black leather interior, in excellent condition throughout. 12 months MoT, 2008 plate, 42,000 miles with FSH.

£4,250.
To view this great little car
telephone
07809 562007.

Cars Under £1500

EXCELLENT CONDITION

RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION 2.0 PETROL

55 reg.
MoT'd.
Service History.
67,000 miles.
Cam belt replaced.
Two keys.
Very clean.
£795 ono.
0786 7685569.

spares & accessories

Accessories & Services

KIA OPTIMA WHEEL/TYRE as new, Immaculate, alloy wheels and Neken tire. Size 225/45R18 95V. Bargain. £300 ono 07977 206208.

Vans Starting from £35

DALLAS
Wide variety of vans:

- Small
- Large
- Littons
- Tippers
- Flats
- Dropside
- Crew
- Refrigerated
- Minibus

13A, Woden Road West, Wednesbury, WS10 7SF
www.dallas-hire.co.uk Tel: 0121 647 7112

**SELL IT FAST
SELL IT LOCAL**

01902 317878
Classified Ads

Mobile Mechanics



MB MOTORS
MOBILE MECHANIC

07809 871733

mbmotorsstaffordshire.co.uk

mbmotors@outlook.com

MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs, Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

Tow Bars & Trailers

TRAILER. Superb, 7ft x 4ft, tailgate, jockey wheel, painted and varnished, including wheel clamp, etc, 0.5 ton gross weight. £450 ono. 07891 288521.

IT'S FREE IT'S EASY

*Advertise any item
FREE up to the
value of £250 go to:
www.expressandstar.com/bookanad



9 Local Information

Public Notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

ALAN BUTLER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Estates Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Ash Grange Care Home 80 Valley Road Bloxwich Walsall West Midlands WS5 3ER or by a Braeside Way Balsall Wall, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 3EL on 21/08/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 14/09/2017, after which the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they had no notice.

HCB SOLICITORS LIMITED
16 Wrens Court Lower Queen Street
Sutton Coldfield West Midlands B72 1ES
TS21135

GWYNETH EDWARDS (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustees Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 3 St Matthews Close Walsall West Midlands WS1 3DG, who died on 19/07/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 03/09/2018, after which the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they had no notice.

ENOC EVANS LLP
69 Hatheron Road Walsall WS1 1XS
TS21135

TRUE HONEST LONELY GUY, 65

Own house and car, looking for lady 45-65 for days and nights out and in, maybe relationship hopefully.

Box Number P21059,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

PRETTY SLIM LADY

Looking to meet a gentleman,

late 50's/early 60's for drinks out, friendship and maybe more.

Box Number P21059,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning

(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development

Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council.

Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning, Engineering and Transportation, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice. Please note, Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

17/1642 HIGH STREET PIZZA FOR: RETROSPECTIVE: RETENTION

OF HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY (A5) AT: 248, HIGH STREET, BLOXWICH,

WALSALL, WS3 3LQ

ADVERTISEMENTS
CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

1. Midland News Association Limited All publications in this group are published by the Midland News Association Limited, registered office Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES ('the Company') and this is the address to which any notices should be sent.

2. Acceptance The Company will only accept advertising on these standard terms and no other contract terms or conditions will apply other than those which are implied by statute and cannot lawfully be excluded. In particular the Company will not accept advertising on the basis of advertiser's terms and conditions.

3. Content of Advertisements All advertisements must be legal, decent, honest and truthful. Advertisements must comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes under the general supervision of the Advertising Standards Authority. Advertisements must comply with the requirements of all current legislation including but not limited to the following: All advertisements must clearly differentiate between trade and private advertising as required by the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must comply with the Consumer Credit (Advertisement) Regulations 1980.

All descriptions of goods must be accurate and in no way infringe the provisions of the Trades Descriptions Act 1968.

Advertisements must not contain any material which is defamatory. You must have permission to use any material contained in your advertisement and must not infringe the copyright, moral rights or any other right of any third party. The Company reserves the right to refuse to carry any advertisement or to require amendment of any advertisement in its absolute discretion.

4. Appearance of Advertisements Whilst the Company makes every effort to comply with requests, publication on a particular date or in a particular position cannot be guaranteed. The Company reserves the right to alter, suspend, cancel or reject an advertisement at its discretion even after the same has been accepted for publication without being liable to compensate you. You will not be charged for any advertisement which does not appear. If only a part of a series of advertisements appears you will only be charged for the advertisements in the series which actually appear. The Company does not guarantee the publication or extent of supporting editorial and your obligation to pay for advertising will not under any circumstances be dependent upon the appearance or content of editorial. No liability will be accepted for non-appearance of editorial. The Company does not guarantee that advertising will not appear for similar or the same subject matter to your advertisement and no liability shall be accepted as a result of such advertising appearing. It is the advertiser's responsibility to provide any amended copy, whether by electronic or other format, and the Company does not guarantee that it will be able to or will agree to modify, amend or alter any file or copy supplied to it.

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8. Indemnity The advertiser, including any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement, warrants that it has permission to use for publication by electronic and printed means all material which is included in the advertisement. The advertiser and any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement agree to indemnify the Company in respect of all charges, costs, claims or damage arising out of the publication of the advertisement, whether the same result from actual or threatened legal action or from some other cause.

9. Cancellation On a request for cancellation or amendment of a classified advertisement being accepted, you will be given a cancellation or amendment number which must be quoted in all subsequent correspondence. Payment of the originally agreed price will be required in full for any advertisement in relation to which the advertiser is unable to supply a valid cancellation or amendment number. Cancellation can only be accepted if the Company is notified of the cancellation by later than the following deadlines:- Lineage, Semi Display - By no later than 6.30pm on the working day prior to publication. Advertisements to appear on Monday must be cancelled by 10 am on the preceding Saturday. Classified Display - By no later than 24 hours before the date of publication

Colour/Features - By no later than 10 clear days before the date of publication To cancel Lineage, Semi Display and Classified Display advertisements please telephone 01902 317878. To cancel Colour/Features advertisements please speak to the Representative through whom the advertisement was booked.

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All gross advertising rates except classified lineage and semi-display are subject to a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance levy payable by advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.

11. Payment The Company reserves the right to require pre-payment as a condition of any advertisement being published. Where pre-payment is not required unless different credit terms have been agreed with the advertiser in writing payment must be made within 14 days of the date of issue of the Company's invoice. An additional £2.00 booking charge will be payable if the invoice is not paid in full within this 14 day period.

Any additional credit facilities which are offered are at the Company's absolute discretion. The advertiser's liability shall be for the full amount of all advertising ordered and shall not be limited to the amount of any credit limit which the Company may impose.

Payment may be made by [method] cash, cheque or credit/debit card. The advertiser's obligation to pay for other items on an account shall not be affected by the existence of any query over an individual item within that account.

12. Data Protection Act The advertiser's details will be retained by the Company for the purposes of administering our accounts records and so that the Company may notify the advertiser of future advertising opportunities which may be of interest to you. By placing advertising with the Company the advertiser agrees to your details being used for this purpose.

13. Applicable Law These conditions of acceptance shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

Ghent ready to step back in at Genting

TOMMY Ghent believes the Genting Arena will be the perfect venue to get fans excited again following his four year hiatus from the sport.

The 25-year-old Coseley boxer will compete on BCB Boxing's 'Now Or Never' show on February 23 on the undercard of Frankie Gavin's bid for the IBO World Welterweight Championship against Bethuel Ushona.

'Gladiator' has been reinvigorated since returning to boxing with his brother Richie in his corner and wants to use this next fight to show why he is a title contender. He said: "Everything is going well. I am getting back into my stride again and I am looking forward to getting back in the ring."

"Having my brother around is fantastic. I am learning every day and I am being pushed to my limit which is what I want."

The show is packed full of local boxers and Ghent is delighted to be involved. "It is really exciting to be fighting in the Genting but I don't think I will be fazed by it," he said.

Tickets, from £40, are available from theticketfactory.com

Grapple for position to see stars of WWE

SUPERSTARS of American wrestling will be in action in Birmingham later this year. Grapple fans can enjoy all the thrills and spills as WWE Live returns to the Genting Arena.

Roman Reigns takes on The Miz in an Intercontinental Championship match, while also set to join the line up are the likes of Seth Rollins, Braun Strowman, Cesaro & Sheamus, Finn Balor, Alexa Bliss, Sasha Banks and Asuka.

The event has been described as a unique blend of sport and entertainment, combining in-ring match action with dramatic entertainment. Bursting with all the drama and energy of a rock concert, in a fun, lively and exciting environment, WWE Live is the ultimate in family entertainment.

The action takes place on Tuesday, May 15, with tickets available, priced at £9.15/£51.75/£68.70/£80 (including admin fees and 90p facility fee) plus a £2.55 fulfilment fee per order, available at www.theticketfactory.com or by calling 0844 33 88 222. VIP tickets are also on offer.

Kiwi all-rounder back for a blast with Bears

NEW ZEALAND all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme wants to go 'one step further' after rejoining Birmingham Bears for the 2018 Twenty20 Blast.

The 31-year-old helped the Bears to the final at Edgbaston last year, scoring 322 runs at a strike-rate of 170.32, as well as taking five wickets. In the final, they lost to Nottinghamshire Outlaws by 22 runs and de Grandhomme said he was hoping to go one better this time around.

"I absolutely loved my time with the Bears last season," he said. "We played some excellent T20 cricket and came very close to winning the T20 Blast on Finals Day."

"We've got a young squad with plenty of firepower, and I believe that we have every chance of going one step further in 2018. Playing in front of a big crowd at Edgbaston with the fans in full voice is a special experience and I'm looking forward to returning to the Bears in July."

Bears' sport director Ashley Giles said: "He went on to play a huge role on our path to the final last year."

Fans unite for carnival atmosphere



Punjabi Wolves and Wolves on Tour link up to enjoy a fun day out at away games

IT is fan travel, but with a difference. Punjabi Wolves Supporters and Wolves on Tour have linked up to provide a 'carnival atmosphere' on away days.

With the success of Nuno Espírito Santo's charges this season, sitting at the top of the Championship, various groups are putting on coaches to games.

Tatler Travels ran its largest-ever operation for the Carabao Cup loss at Manchester City earlier this season, providing eight coaches.

But the Punjabi Wolves Supporters and Wolves on Tour partnership took a different approach. Their focus was on quality, not quantity.

Andy Sahota helped set up Punjabi Wolves back in 2007. He said: "There's 50 of us. We want to keep the numbers low, but everybody that comes with us has a good time. We want to be like a family, at the end of the day. The people on the coach, we want to know them all. We welcome everybody."

Following

One of the most popular Wolves supporters groups, Punjabi Wolves have made waves this season with their drum-led celebrations after games.

Wolves on Tour only started last campaign, but have gained a good following in that short time. Trips to Man City in October and Reading in November were hugely successful, as was the short journey to Birmingham.

"What we are trying to achieve is a carnival atmosphere," Sahota said. "We want to try to create that, every game we go to. We want people from all different backgrounds to get together and have a good time."

"Going forward, that's what we are trying to do – we are trying to make it different from what other people are doing. We want to theme them and have a good time, a carnival."

Wolves on Tour is run by Ash Wilde. The relationship between his group and Punjabi Wolves started with the game at Nottingham Forest in September, which Nuno's men won 2-1.

"We basically started out from the Facebook page – Wolverhampton Wan-

SPORTING FEATURE

By Joe Edwards



Drums help with the jovial atmosphere

Sahota added: "Our first travel was to Sunderland in 2007 and all we've wanted is people from all different backgrounds to have a good time. It's about enjoying yourself and partying."

"Ash got in touch with us and it's helped both parties, really – they've got the following, we've got the vibes and the quality. It works hand in hand."

Wilde says Wolves on Tour came about following the buzz around a Facebook page he set up, called Wolverhampton Wanderers FC News and Chat.

"We basically started out from the Facebook page – Wolverhampton Wan-



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Rout opens up six-point lead at top

Walsall Wood 8 Coventry Alvis 0
WOOD rocketed out of the blocks and in six minutes it was game over as they led 4-0.

To their credit, the basement boys tried to take the game to Wood but shipped another four goals to take their league tally to 92 from 23 games.

Peter Till linked up with Jordan Fitzpatrick to fire in the first goal. Virtually straight away Ben Lund made it two, and keeping up the pressure, Lei Brown made it three. When Brown made it four, it looked like a calculator would be needed, but only one more was added before half-time, through Tony Clarke.

It was six from the very first attack of the second half as Brown unselfishly set up Clarke. This stunned the visitors into life, and Lloyd Ransome was forced into a great save.

At the other end Abidan Edwards denied Clarke his hat-trick and saved from Paul Sullivan.

But, following a counter-attack with a snapshot off the bar, Sullivan put Lee Butler in on goal to make it seven. With time running out Sullivan completed his return from injury by lashing in number eight.

It wrapped up Wood's second double of the season with a 15-0 aggregate win.

With Atherton and Ilkeston both held away by lower opposition Wood have now opened up a six-point gap at the top still with a game in hand over the next four teams.

Coventry Copsewood visit Fortress Wood on Saturday.

Double the chance of Midland boxing glory as field halves

BOXERS still involved in BCB's Midlands Boxing Super Series have seen their hopes of lifting the Midlands Area Super Featherweight Title double.

The field has been halved, with four now still standing to lift the crown.

Luke Jones of Chasetown, Brumby Paul Holt, Indi Sangha of Derby and Tamworth's Louis Fielding remain after the withdrawals of Kane Baker, Manny Zaber and Josh Baillie. Jack Summers also no longer features.

The elimination tournament, staged by Errol Johnson's BCB Promotions, starts on Saturday February 10, in the Stadium Suite at Walsall Football Club. There will be no quarter-final ties, with Jones instead taking on Holt and Fielding up against Sangha in the semis.

Home fighter Rachel Ball and Coventry's Jordan Cooke also feature in other offerings.

Tickets are on sale through the boxers on Facebook or online at iboxingtickets.com. Or, call the box office on 01922 651414, extension 416. They cost £35 standard and £60 ringside, the latter to include food. Entry on the night is £40.



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Banging the drum for a carnival atmosphere

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Shaibu adds sting to Saddlers

WALSALL have snapped up highly rated Brentford striker Justin Shaibu on loan for the rest of the season.

The 20-year-old becomes the Saddlers second signing of the January transfer window following the arrival of George Dobson. He was expected to be eligible for the League One clash at Blackburn on Tuesday night.

A Denmark under-20 international, Shaibu joined the Bees from home-town club HB Koge back in June 2016. Initially signed for Brentford's

B team, the forward was promoted to the first team ranks ahead of the 2017/18 campaign.

He has featured five times for Dean Smith's side this season and scored his first senior goal in a League Cup victory over AFC Wimbledon.

Shaibu's arrival follows the departures of Tyler Roberts, Daniel Agyei and Zeli Ismail following their loan spells.

Boss Jon Whitney is delighted to have added the youngster to his ranks. He said: "We needed some reinforcements up top and it's important

that Justin came in. I spoke to Dean Smith about him in the last transfer window and he needs games now.

"They brought him in from Denmark in 2016 and they see him as having a very big future. He's got raw pace and he gives us that threat up front.

"Dean obviously knows how we work here and that we can help to develop him between now and the end of the season.

"Justin will come in and give us that attacking threat."

Nap hand for Darlo as run extends

Darlaston 5 Telford Juniors 0

DARLASTON made it 16 points from the last 18, cementing third place in the league with a comfortable five-goal victory.

Following torrential rain during the week the pitch was heavy and not conducive to free-flowing football. However, both teams played a passing game and did not resort to playing long ball.

Darlaston began at a whirlwind pace and went ahead after 11 minutes, Tyrone Clarke-O'Connell scoring after being teed up by Ryan Jones.

Darlaston were in control but grew frustrated as they failed to make their chances count.

Further chances went begging before the home side eventually doubled their lead from the penalty spot on 33 minutes. Leon Taylor was brought down and Lucas Hough despatched.

The third goal came early in the second half, Taylor outjumping Ebrima Jallow to head home.

The game was effectively over as a contest on 63 minutes. Taylor netting his second, and Darlaston's afternoon was complete in the final minute when they were awarded a second penalty following an off the ball incident between Scott Broadway and Telford's Jordan Sankey. Top scorer Broadway was handed the responsibility and fired home.

On Saturday Darlaston make the short journey to Long Lane, Essington, to take on Wyrley, hoping to extend their unbeaten league run to seven games.

Pics squander their advantage yet again

Marine 2 Rushall Olympic 2

PICS let the lead slip for the second week running. After being pegged back from 3-0 the week before, Pics held a two-goal advantage here.

Andre Landell gave Pics a 10th minute lead in the Evo-Stik Premier and Sam Whittall jinked past a defender and fired home to double the advantage.

The home side pulled one back on 70 minutes when Danny Mitchley was brought down and scored from the spot. The equaliser came on 82 minutes when Kenny Strickland caught Bermudian goalkeeper Jahiul Hill out with a free-kick from 30 yards out.

Kelly's eye on Open darts slot



UK Open darts qualifiers Mark Craddock, left, and Liam Kelly

LIAM Kelly and Mark Craddock have booked their places at the 'FA Cup of Darts' after coming through qualifiers in Wolverhampton.

Dudley's Kelly and Cannock's Craddock fought their way to the last two to get their chance at glory at the 2018 UK Open.

The finals are at Butlin's Minthead from March 2-4 and Riley's Sports Bars are working alongside the PDC to produce 32 'wildcards' to join the latter's professionals.

Kelly and Craddock prevailed from the first weekend of competition. The next event is on

February 18. Anybody aged 16 or over can compete, but entries cannot be made on the day.

Applications can be made in person at Riley's until 5pm the previous day. Call 01902 310521. The online cut-off is 24 hours before the event at www.rileys.co.uk/tournaments

Entry fee is £7 and there is a strict dress code of trousers, shoes and either a shirt or polo shirt.

Doors open at 10am on the day and players must sign in by midday, ahead of the 12.30pm draw. They will toe the oche by 1.30pm.

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